
Appendix A

ONLINE SURVEY DATA

DETAILED ONLINE SURVEY COMMENTS

Option 1 (Swiss Chard)

Question 2: Why did you chose this option?

- It has the most space for housing development.
- Affordable housing is needed.
- It's the best of the worst possible uses for the land
- Has the highest utility for people.
- Option with most housing
- On the balance, affordable housing is most needed in our city. This option maintains the wetland, the agricultural aspect already in place, and provides an opportunity for housing to be integrated into both. While the carrot option looks like a wonderful ideal, the fact is that the actual farming space is already hugely limited due to the wetland, and development of affordable housing is more needed than a park for some fruit and nut trees.
- Maximum amount of affordable housing.
- We need more affordable housing in this community. I also appreciate how much agricultural land is left and green space. I think it looks reasonable.
- Housing is needed and it should be below market.
- We need more affordable housing than we need more parks
- We desperately need more affordable housing in this housing crisis, devoting as much as allowable to that goal should be the ideal candidate.
- Maximizes affordable housing for which there is a great need in Nanaimo
- I cannot afford to move out in today's economy so affordable housing is an absolute must.
- More space = more housing units?
- More space for affordable housing
- best balance of community needs
- good mix of housing, farming and recreational
- We need more affordable housing for people.
- It preserves the wetlands and allows for the most housing to support our over crowded and suffering city
- More affordable housing
- More space dedicated to affordable housing.
- We need more affordable housing, and this option balances the creation and maintenance of public spaces with new housing.
- Harewood needs Affordable housing
- I feel it is a much more balanced approach.
- Widow/Senior without affordable housing now living in 1 room after cancer interrupted work a few years ago.
- I think this site needs affordable housing and this design maximizes affordable housing while maintaining large portions of the property for farming.
- We need more affordable housing. Allowing more space for housing provides opportunity to

create beautiful spaces for families. Housing cooperatives mixed with low income rentals and habitat for humanity homes would be ideal.

- Because there wasn't an option to skip the park
- Seems like a reasonable balance between affordable housing and open space.
- We need more options for affordable housing.
- I has the most space for affordable housing – and this is something the city desperately needs.
- There is a need for affordable housing.
- Great green available all year round.
- Nanaimo needs affordable housing.
- It seems like the best option.
- More land allotted to affordable housing
- So many ways to prepare it. Very nutritional.
- Truly affordable housing is desperately needed.
- 1 acre isn't enough space for homes when we have a shortage of homes
- Nanaimo is in desperate need of affordable housing. This is a primarily residential area so medium density makes sense. This option provides a good mixed-use plan.
- Putting housing next to land where they can farm/garden as a community makes a lot of sense. Traffic control needs to be well planned. Liked the rec area for the housing as well.
- Housing is needed and can be well integrated into the site.
- Needing more affordable housing in town and this has the largest option to give that to our community,
- Nanaimo needs more affordable housing
- Affordable housing
- Good access off boardwalk street. Maximizes housing options and economic viability. Good balance of all values.
- People need affordable housing
- Housing is a problem
- Because there wasn't an option to choose "NONE".
- Most land to housing
- Largest parcel for housing
- Maximum land for much needed housing
- Has most housing and still maximizes green space.
- It has something for everyone.
- Vegetable
- Option one allows for the most housing which is desperately needed. While still allowing a garden park and wetland
- all season crop, leafy greens are essential nutrition
- A good balance that tries to meet all the needs of ecology, recreation areas, housing, and local farmland most offered social housing

Question 3: Do you have any other comments?

- Why do all these proposals make me think you're all smoking crack? Congrats, on creating absolutely useless farm....honestly, this would be so much better for the community if it was all developed and used all year round and not just a summer project for retirees.
- Yea, I just discovered the city allows for people to take the survey multiple times. #ethical Totally can't be leveraged by an individual to completely skew results and project their biases

into the results. Nothing say's Democratic values like being able to stuff ballot boxes. Congratulations on lowering what little faith I have in city officials even further.

- Naming the various items in the pole was very confusing for me.
- I think this process would be much easier to make decisions about if the "affordable housing" option was actually defined beyond a grey square. Is this a tower? A set of townhouses? Is it for low-income seniors? Indigenous folk? Families? An acre for a four storey tower versus two acres for six standalone units makes a difference, but that isn't part of this conversation.
- While I can agree that farm land is important and locally grown food is valuable, given the housing crisis we are in I think that the best use land within the city is to provide housing.
- Please do multi-purpose housing. Allow for commercial use on the first floor of most units, and maybe one unit on ground floor as accessible residential
- Will the housing actually be affordable? (No more than 30% of a minimum wage earning citizen.) Or will this affordability be defined by someone else's metric?
- We need more housing now!
- Will working the farmland be done in a way that recognizes proximity of dwellings?
- It was always Craig's dream to be able to have farmer workers live on site (underemployed individuals having stable housing and working on the farm). Housing is health care, and incorporating local food production and learning opportunities for people who might otherwise not have a home if it weren't for the creative and smart use of the land and site for community wellness. Also what happens if housing is not built? Where did the funding come from to purchase the property to begin with?
- All of the affordable housing that was here in the late 80's early 90's now has unaffordable housing built on it
- Pretty sure Nanaimo has enough parks without having to take away farm land. Why not do half farm, half affordable housing if this is the spot for it? And please let's not have another repeat where these affordable housing units cost 10x as much as a typical build for beautification
- This option seems the best balance and use of the land.
- The land here needs to be kept as farmland for food Security for Nanaimo and District.
- I hope that the affordable housing units built in this area will be attached to people's ability to pay. 2000\$ a month for an apartment is not affordable.
- We are losing too many farms to big Corporations. No 15 min cities.
- The city seems reluctant to put affordable housing anywhere, too bad this is now becoming a site for that rather than food growing.
- The term affordable housing is somewhat nebulous. The housing I would propose would be fully subsidized family housing, although that type of housing has not been built in Nanaimo for 25 years. We have been selling Harewood as a "lower-income" community but "affordable housing" for the missing middle is not what we need. There will soon be nowhere in the area for poor people to live. Having a home where you can grow your own food is perfect.
- Please ensure open space and gardening through the housing too.
- Would be nice to see some growing and green space woven into housing.
- would be nice to see edible food in the recreation areas too in tandem with recreation and trails, wetlands etc.
- There is a real crisis here and we need to help the most vulnerable in our society.
- Build also a school.
- Why not utilize existing properties that are vacant for housing development? Multiple vacant properties available on Nicol Street and elsewhere. The long standing vacant motel, and eye sore, on the NW corner of Terminal and Comox is ideal for housing development. Leave the

historic farm and green space alone!!!!!!!

- Reduce public amenity space and increase land for housing beyond 2 acres
- More land for housing and farming less for amenity space... maybe combine Swiss chard and raspberry to get 2.5 acres or more.
- Option 2 and 3 are my next choice.
- Keep spaces that grow food, we have so little food security on the island.

Option 2 (Beet)

Question 2: Why did you chose this option?

- Seems like the best option for farming, park and housing.
- Smaller housing footprint and less need to remove trees.
- I like the layout of the existing park land, and only impeding 1 acre for housing development closer to the street for parking etc. makes more sense. I like the location of the other amenities such as the parkland, and playground space
- Housing is needed, should be furthest away from wetland. As much agricultural space as possible.
- Layout appealing, keeps the housing on park, saves a few nice trees.
- It provides affordable housing which is greatly needed while still maximizing the farming and outdoor space
- Good balance between housing and nature. Access from two roads. Trail is an easy-to-use loop.
- This option has the ability to have the most amenities while still allowing affordable house. Recreation, park, farming and the least disturbance to wetlands.
- Good roots, good greens, pest resistant!
- Street access is improved and it saves some of the heritage trees while also providing much needed housing for the community.
- High in vitamins and easy to grow
- Affordable housing is needed. This is the only option with adequate buffering of that site to the wetland. In a perfect world the complete preservation of the land would be preferred.
- While I'd love to see the area left as a farm, I applaud the recognition for affordable housing areas
- Need affordable housing, but need Green space. The Harewood project will provide more than enough social housing in south Nanaimo
- Keep protected area close to park and walking area, keeps residential area with more privacy.
- More modest housing, farthest away from protected area
- We need more affordable housing yet I want to keep the integrity of the property and have the buffer between the housing and the rest of the property.
- Balance of affordable housing and park land. Keeping existing treed area. Access for affordable housing on a larger street.
- I assume the city will choose an option with affordable housing, and while I would like all the land to be for farm/recreation, this affordable housing option looks like it preserves the most existing trees and doesn't "break up" the land by putting the housing between the farm area and the rest of the land.

- Seems like a good balance of park, recreational area, farming and increased housing.
- I like the idea of affordable housing with preservation of land. My one concern would be traffic on Park Ave so close to the school zone, but I cannot imagine it would be much better either way
- Because I love beets. They are a nutritious root vegetable offering cleansing properties, fibre, edible green tops, and amazing nitric oxide – NO – no to reasoning this land !
- I like the option of including affordable housing, and feel that this location on the acreage will be the best as residents will have easy access via Park Avenue, and the farm/recreation sites will be least impacted by the addition of housing. I hope the housing (townhouses?) will be 2–3 stories to make best use of the space available.
- More garden and green space.
- With city's great demand of housing and lot of people moving in the city so it would be nice to have more housing and still preserve the nature
- I like the housing is pedestrian oriented and provides more eyes on the street near the school. Allows for continuous outdoor space which is better for wildlife. Still allows for agriculture in this area which is historically important and relevant to the current population. Recreation activities near farming can help educate the local population about local food systems.
- More park land, farming space, already so many new housing developments in the area
- The space for affordable housing is not currently used for farming. The farmland remains as is and the wetlands are protected
- Housing and preservation of nature/historic site
- Mixture of farm land, housing with yard space
- It brings the affordable housing closer to the street-front, which is in line with urban design best practices.
- Nanaimo desperately needs affordable housing however, food security is also a huge concern. Option 2 situates the housing closer to the road and away from protected wetland.
- The housing option is tucked away in the corner and close to existing roadway.
- While there is certainly a need for affordable housing there is also a need for green space and it's better to build up than out.
- This option places housing space and keep the mature trees, allows for park trails without sacrificing the beauty of the old farm. Plan with larger housing option takes out significant portion of trees and puts pressure on local roads. Plan with no housing doesn't meet the goals of more housing.
- While I agree multi-family housing in Nanaimo should be a priority, this land should remain as much agriculturally zoned as possible for future generations to enjoy as it is.
- Provides badly needed housing while retaining farmland that will benefit from full sun for growing. If housing was further back from Pop ark Ave the building(s) might cast a shadow.
- Best compromise among the possible options if development must occur.
- Affordable housing is obviously needed. So is agriculture, recreation and education. I think this option is ok at providing for all 3 of those.
- The development in Option 2 is the least damaging to the site with building area kept to the corner of the site and on an urban corridor (option 3 is terrible as the green space at the corner is essentially useless). Farmland is at risk and there is a deficit of park area for the neighbourhood.
- I understand the need for more housing and affordable at that, but we also need to protect the green spaces in our town to ensure biodiversity, healthy living, and opportunities to grow food locally and keep green space to improve mental health. Wetlands are so important for

many species, but also aiding in filtration, flood protection and climate change to name a few.

- I think that any development should be focused away from the wetland. I actually like Carrot best, but recognize that the City needs affordable housing. If this area is to be developed as much of the existing fields/wetland area should remain in tact.
- Provides effective land use for farming, keeps the housing plan, but distances it from the protected wetlands. Also, having the housing closer to the road make sense.
- Housing is not dividing up the other 4 acres. And the one acre is along the street side.
- Because it did not break up the nature space so much and the building close to the road makes the most sense to me.
- The plan includes affordable housing but leaves the rest of the site less broken up than the other options.
- It keeps some farm land and offers affordable housing.
- Root and greens are 5 edible.
- The proximity of the housing to Park Avenue.
- Protection of the heritage fruit trees.
- Easy access to the existing road

Question 3: Do you have any other comments?

- I strongly think the farming part should stay and be a major part of the property
- As many shade bearing and nesting trees as possible. Vegetation if aesthetic, should be the kinds that require the least amount of water with sponge landscaping for water absorption/retention. Rain water reservoirs/ cisterns at every corner. Rooftop farming. Kid Zone Garden for teaching to, and harvesting by, the children.
- Thank you for accepting public input.
- Affordable housing is needed but it is important to surround it with nature and not eliminate the parks and recreational gathering places for the higher density areas as new neighbourhoods are created.
- While I support urban agriculture, our housing needs are also very important.
- This is an all important farm for local essential produce
- I'm not sure what the concept pavilion would be or if it is necessary.
- Sustainability needs to be key. With drought conditions, rising costs, etc. the city needs to focus on ensuring plans are sustainable and support the future for both humans and the natural environment. Please ensure the recreation portion is beneficial for the environment and supports native species.
- All of these wonderful items are fruits of the earth that can provide sustenance and health benefits for the community, not to mention the farming, which can bring about biodiversity to the land.
- Recreational space is the least important addition in my view because there is already recreational space nearby.
- I would rather see more space for the vegetable and fruit gardens
- This property should be left as much farmland as possible as this is how it has been and the previous owner would want it to stay that way! Farmland is important and should be left for the surrounding families to work and learn how to produce their own food.
- This is a great project.
- The affordable housing needs to be dense on order to justify the sacrifice of land that could have otherwise supported more community farmland.

- thank you for having an online option for those who can't attend in person
- I hope the farming area includes Community Garden plots. I was the Pres of the Pitt Meadows Community Garden and as we live close by would be willing to help. Where is the parking for the housing occupants? Is this rental housing?
- To some extent, maintaining the whole property [no development] is preferred but the choice must be placed in the current context.
- I would chose Option 5 but many will oppose it because housing is currently considered the ultimate good. California agriculture is on the verge of collapse so this attitude may soon change. Governments are going to have to start considering how we are going to feed as well as house the booming population.
- Housing being built could be multi-age living to provide community feel and aid in improving the lives of our seniors.
- Development with a smaller footprint is better. Natural areas and wetlands are key to building healthy environments and ecosystems. Additionally, keeping local food production as part of the city is important for food security and teaching. Wet lands are key components to eco-systems and can play a role in flood protection systems, which should be part of our development plans due to increased storms and climate change
- I'm very excited for this project and hope to see more if of the same idea
- I originally wanted the entire 5 acres kept as it, but having one acre used for affordable housing seemed like a good idea.
- Although keeping all of the land agricultural / it seems that if good planning a great crop can still be grown and include room for some housing. I am all in favour for public walkways through this space too so all can enjoy.
- This seems like the best option to be able to farm the land and have homes for people to live.
- There could even be a community garden to get the public more involved, having food security for the future is important

Option 3 (Apple)

Question 2: Why did you chose this option?

- This one could be like a feudalist society where people could have a reduction in rent for tending crops
- It looks like the best balance between parkland, agricultural, and affordable housing.
- Maximum amount of farming use, while still including affordable housing.
- It balances the various needs for the land the best, agriculture is important.
- Shared urban agricultural is extremely important. It's important to have city owned property to grow food for the community. Social housing is also important and can be incorporated within the plan. In this case, I would prioritize a pasturable land on the 5 acre plot for agriculture.
- More farm land
- People don't eat enough beets and they have so many health benefits
- Driving down Park Ave you will not see the houses as much
- Because I think it's important to consider both food and housing and this layout is most appealing. I would like to think that the farm section east of the housing could be made available to the occupants for food gardens, or somehow make an effort to involve the people in the

food production aspect.

- It addresses the affordable housing shortage while still providing farming activities and some recreational amenities.
- Housing is not as dominant, yet provides enough space for people working there to live and train others.
- Provides additional benefits for wildlife
- When I grew up in Harewood, I lived near a historical 5 acre farm, the old Dixon Farm. He had these most wonderful variety of heritage apples. They were so large crisp and tasty. Never found them again and they are lost. These farms were integral to the coal mining history of the area, as well as preserving green space and growing food. Dixon's Farm had a large pond in a gully full of life. I raised tadpoles into frogs. I hate to see absolutely everything destroyed, It's so sad that no one cares.
- It allows for many different and all important options for this site
- Like a design that provides a limited amount of land for affordable housing and room for the expansion of farming. The expansion could be green house which would not require land that supports in soil farming.
- I like that there will be a field / possible agriculture area between Park Ave and the housing complex. Also that the complex will take up only 1 acre so there is a larger green area.
- Apples are so very versatile and can make many dishes and great to preserve.
- This options balances everything well. Access is best off boardwalk for housing.
- Apple trees will last for decades
- I think some level of community housing would be valuable, and I thought having it be integrated into the green space, not appended to it might be good.
- I support new housing on the site, and think that 1 acre is a good compromise. This configuration is a good mix of appearing as a farm from Park Avenue while tucking some of the farm behind the new development, which might make it quieter and more enjoyable for recreation.
- I like that the housing is set back from the road to allow for more agricultural land.
- With city densification, there is inadequate green space. Wetland ecosystems must be protected. An increasing number of people are trying to grow their own food to supplement purchases. Education on how to 'farm' intensively on small city lots would be most helpful.
- I almost picked carrot. I value urban farming, but picked apple as a compromise. Affordable housing is also important.
- Allows for housing, farming and recreation. The farm's location (in proximity to an elementary school and a secondary school) makes it ideal for educational purposes.
- The layout looks balanced.
- This option offers "some" housing, with small amount of land impact. Idea of people that work the land and run the center live upstairs.

Question 3: Do you have any other comments?

- There should be production goals or they lose housing.
- Yes, tenants should be called serfessors and have to manage the crops for council.
- I think you should keep the farm land as it is.
- What kind of housing are you planning on building? Is it house or town house or apartment? Would had like to know this before the survey came out
- What is the management plan for the farm sector and how is it connected to other food efforts in the community?

- Very encouraged to see efforts to conserve farm land & wetlands combined with affordable housing initiative — three vitally important values. I am a nearby resident (uplands, oak hills above Harewood).
- Ideal would be if homeless people could be trained (others maybe taken off drugs and rehabilitated) and learn some respect for the land and gain self-respect. Many people would benefit and labour would be plenty while housing is also supplied.
- I don't feel that a farm effectively uses prime land. This would be better off as a wetland park or native tree garden. Wetlands and natural areas are more of a tourist attraction than an old farm; as Nanaimo aims to progress, we should target that.
- I truly believe we need to preserve these five acre farms if not for the green space, to provide health local food, but the preservation of the coal mining history. How these farms sustained a generation of pioneers.
- Please allow as much farming as possible so we don't have to rely on importing all our food while building much needed affordable housing
- The group that is presently operating the farm is focused on education rather than productive farming. The Apple option would allow a future group that is more focused on farming to increase the operation.
- Since moving to this neighbourhood 12 years ago there are so many new subdivisions the deer, ducks etc. have all had to find new areas to roam. I would really like to opt for #5 but I know that is impractical because of our housing needs. I do have concerns that "affordable" housing will actually be affordable and that the tenants will be compatible with this family neighbourhood.
- We need to save our last farming land in Harewood.
- It's absolutely a necessity!
- It would be lovely to see food production and public open space within the housing too. Everything can be balanced on site.
- Apple is the only choice that will benefit future generations for a longer time!
- I support new housing. There are bigger sites the city needs to be pursuing, such as working with VIU to establish much more student housing, which is relatively cheap to build, takes the pressure off other housing, and would allow VIU to prevent further student enrolment reductions. The City of Nanaimo should be doing everything possible to seek development of the Federal Lands around the barracks that are underused but would provide an incredible opportunity for much-needed housing.
- I hope that the chosen plan considers indigenous history of the land.
- This housing option only makes sense if housing on upper floor. Lower floor has office, kitchen, boardroom food processing area, workshops, information area with contact information and class schedule. Small gravel off-street parking lot. Covered deck for enjoying scenery, getting out of the sun, and connecting with others (community).

Option 4 (Raspberry)

Question 2: Why did you chose this option?

- Preserve as much park and agriculture land, while still making project financially affordable and builds community on site by having housing. Like housing to be integrated into site, thus chose this layout.
- I want to pick both Swiss chard & raspberry. As it looks like there could be around 2.75 acres of affordable/ equitable family friendly housing right next to a school

- Raspberry would allow for staff or intern housing. Utilizing the growing micro-housing boom less land would be covered without compromising functional, adaptable or beautiful designs. Using smart technology, off grid solar / energy storage would help off-set building costs, heat irradiated floors, EV charging station rebates, geoship domes with a 500 year durability, cob, hempcrete, shipping containers etc.
- It increases the amount of farmable land, particularly also maintains the established fruit orchard and it keeps a decent amount of very needed housing more accessible to the road/ existing residential neighborhood. The nature park is shifted to overlook/be adjacent to the agricultural land which increases exposure and accessibility for educational opportunities to youth and families.
- I chose option 4., but I actually don't like any of them. I would like 4 much more if it was shifted right up towards Park Ave. When it is so far back on the property it interferes more with the wetland and the water run off. Which is very important for an ephemeral stream. With #4 shifted upwards, it helps the wetland, gives more green space and allows you to remain true to your original funding and vision of the property with affordable housing.
- If #4 isn't shifted up, I would pick #2 or #5.
- Maximized space for garden, farming, park and playground access, while offering excellent situation for affordable housing.
- I think it offers housing but protects the space of the agricultural area more than the other options
- Looks like a good option to have the affordable housing with lots of space for farming still.
- This space is so incredibly valuable and trying to safeguard the loss of natural resources and ecosystems seems vital to create a sustainable farming area. Having the new buildings along the far side made the most sense as it was away from the main farm space while protecting the crucial water / marsh area.
- I think it is the best use of the space. In keeping the farming and wetland areas protected, but adding affordable housing. The placement seems the best use of space as well.
- Maximizes the green space, offers the kids a playground in a beautiful space.
- Will provide needed housing, city of nanaimo will not have to pay for the land with other funds.
- Looks good
- I believe it is the best use for the area.
- I support Food Share and their insight.
- Balances the need for housing with the need to keep that farmland. The farm provides a lot of much needed services to the community and the more that can be kept in tact the better.
- The long housing blocks out the residential neighborhood and the affordable housing residents also have more exposure to green space. Also, development can cause pollution...keeping the build back from agriculture makes sense to me
- A difficult decision. Urban green space, and especially farmable land, is essential for providing natural spaces to improve well being and provide food security. In terms of addressing the shortage of affordable housing, I selected the 1 acre of housing that least impacts the agricultural space in the 5 acre parcel. However, my real first choice is 'Carrot' to maximize protection of wetland, green space, and farmland. I am selecting Raspberry because of the housing crisis in the city -- but I sincerely wish the city had other options for land to convert. How about converting concrete to housing?
- Most farm area
- Our kids love raspberries and they are so expensive in stores
- Low maintenance and ever bearing.
- I think including some affordable housing is important as this is so strongly needed here in our

community, but liked that this option left more usable farm area.

- Respects farmland while also including affordable housing
- Puts the housing along the street front access, preserving the most green space
- Having housing on the site is logical and placement at the edge center seems to leave the most space for any agriculture.
- Expensive
- I liked the placement of the affordable housing and the improved retention of agricultural land.
- I think some space to utilize affordable housing is a great idea but i also believe in the preservation of the farm and to keep as much of it the same. It's a cool little farm and the programs offered when using the farm should be continued!
- preserves most of the green space while providing a housing option that maximizes number of units with view of the green space
- I think it's the best overall use of land as the layout is well balanced to support both housing and farmland.
- It seems like the best overall land use.
- The Playground right next to the gardens that the children have their field trips and summer camps is key. Also washrooms with running water next to where all of the community programming and gardens is important to be closer and center of the property. Having the housing there is very much needed in our community. Incorporating the housing into the gardens could be very attractive and goodness knows we need it. Having the people that are living in the housing to be involved in the gardens would be ideal. If it was senior living, intergenerational programming with Food Share could be done with the sd68 kids and the seniors living in the homes. Or a community garden space, where they could have their very own plot. A food forest could go into where the heritage fruit trees are with the walk way from Park Ave. And native plant garden (perhaps with NALT) in the wetlands with NALT educational signage about the flora and fauna there. So many amazing ways to celebrate a 5 acre space, this would help many issues in our community all in 1 Five acre space. You could have some amazing signage around the 5 acres with the history of the 5 acre plots and how people lived, worked, and farmed on them. (People living on the land doesn't ruin the 5 acre history and agriculture history! It is actually the history of the 5 acre plots) Also, the indigenous history of the resting grounds in the rolling foothills of the mountain, where they hunted. The Harewood planes is also connected to this same history where they gathered food, Cama onions and medicines. It could all be so amazing. Thank you so much for buying this property and preserving its history!
- Housing is needed, there is no way that space just sits there.
- Because the housing is close to the street and it leaves more room for agriculture. We need local food production
- Reminds me of how they weave development and parkland in Calgary. Housing is needed but not at the expense of farmland and parkland.
- I like protecting the available wetland if possible

Question 3: Do you have any comments?

- I feel the priority of this site should be on agricultural education.
- Hopefully the local government does what the community needs vs what they like
- Innovative smart building options mentioned above could potentially open the door for generating income for the farm through workshops for the growing communities seeking alternatives to the typical large homes. By using micro-housing one would not have to compromise materials creating a beautiful environment within and without. There is diversity, sustainability,

and beauty in the many micro-housing options around the world. The Eden project in the UK uses large domes to house micro environments for year round growing. Taking a smaller approach 5 acre farm could be a hub leading the way to a more sustainable lifestyle. It could potentially create a space and place for everyone inside and outside the community to come together, collaborate, design, and create something amazing. So much so I would love to be a part of this communities collaborative initiatives.

- Very grateful to the city staff who has put this together and to council for consistency along this process, making choices that benefit our entire community. We are in a housing crisis. New housing adjacent to a wetland, park and agricultural space will be inspired to be involved and benefit from the city's efforts.
- I run all the education programs on the .7 acre in contract with Nanaimo Food Share. All the options are great (except #1)
- Perhaps extend the length of the housing toward the right, making it 1.5 acres of affordable housing, while still offering ample space for all other property features.
- I work in an employment programs at Nanaimo Food Share called Cultivating Abilities. The program utilizes the farm space to grow food and teach educational classes with my program at least once a week. Instructors teach participants how to grow food, new recipes, to build their stamina and endurance and to build community. It is always one of the participant's favourite activities.
- We have been there when there are buses filled with kids on field trips and it is incredible to see and hear the excitement and wonder. It is a gem of the community and I truly hope that whatever decision that is made reflects the best interest of long-term health and sustainable living.
- I have lived in Nanaimo my whole life, and my dad was born and raised here as well. I now have a 16 and 14 year old and worry about the future of this gorgeous city we love, as it seems to be getting incredibly crowded. Coming from a background in health care I know that the problems are all complex and the public just sees a sliver of what is really going on behind the scenes, but I would love to really urge whoever makes the decisions to please safeguard this incredible space.
- It would be amazing if the housing planned could be purpose built to include persons with disabilities, which are a greatly underserved population in our community. Would be amazing to have supportive affordable housing and accessible housing for developmental disabilities and physical disabilities.
- Can 4 be pushed up towards Park Ave and further away from the wetland?
- Keep development off Park Ave.
- Please continue to keep more land for gardening.
- This is a great potential for Nanaimo! More development like this should happen anywhere it's possible.
- I recognize the City of Nanaimo has limited control over the lands within the city boundaries. I support the City of Nanaimo using more planning mechanisms within their control to ensure affordable housing units increase dramatically. Obviously the city has a terrible track record of sprawl, parking lots, and box stores/strip malls (some of which have space sitting vacant and unused for many years). Such squandered infrastructure is even more disappointing when the City feels a need to reduce green space (like the Park avenue 5 acres) to meet other critical needs. Zoning and planning must be used more decisively to address these imbalances of excess concrete and a deficit of living space and green space.
- Why not grow all 5?
- This is not an easy choice. Overall, wonderful that this land is city owned and appreciate the

thoughtful process of receiving feedback

- I've been by the site many, many times over the past several years to see how productive (or, as the case may be, unproductive the space is). I think unless the space has a paid full-time farmer then the land will be grossly underutilized as it currently is with Food Share/Growing Opportunities.
- Hard to find fresh ones
- i want to live there
- What does affordable housing mean exactly? As no one wants low income housing near them, just make normal unaffordable housing there. People will still climb over each other to buy it up.
- I like the idea of putting social housing near a lovely green space. Most social housing has limited outdoor green space.

Option 5 (Carrot)

Question 2: Why did you chose this option?

- I prefer there be no housing on this site.
- We need land that is used for education and sustainable community food support such as Food Share provides. Expansion of farm land and sustainable environmental management shows the City's commitment to improving our way of life and the land NOT be used as a political band aid for City politicians who would NEVER have this type of housing development in their backyard.
- NO to low income housing. Our neighbourhood needs this space so we can continue in the right projection of what our community needs. Anything else would be a slap in the face and show that the City doesn't really care about its people.
- There needs to be some spaces saved solely for food production. It is a benefit to our community to hold onto a small chunk of this history.
- This land needs to stay farmland. We don't have much left. There are plenty of other places for affordable housing.
- There are other options to look at density and affordable housing in our community on land that has old/derelict buildings on them or lots that are empty and close to amenities. This rare piece of land should continue to be used for food production and education.
- There are other areas for densification, this is the last urban farm and should be protected. The island needs to invest to be more self sufficient.
- I believe this area should be maintained for agricultural purposes, education & food security. The wetland & heritage trees are all very important. Hope the parkland will add rather than take away from this very important use. Love buying my veg grown within the city.
- Using viable farm land for housing is short sighted. The land is much more valuable as agricultural land.
- I feel we need more green space find another place to build your low income housing not in my back yard how about your back yard ?
- The farm is an important part of our community and should remain intact.
- We still need land for food and it's a wet land so be protected
- This site needs to stay farm and park land there are other places to build houses. The community worked for years to protect it, as the last 5 acres of community owned land historic farm land. Building on it would change/destroy the property.

- This is not an appropriate site for housing. Wetland and urban farming need to be prioritized for future generations.
- We already don't have enough green space and we aren't getting any more.
- Protect the land
- Food security, preserve agricultural lands in BC, full community access to site, educational opportunities. Effects of climate crisis on food production in a province with little arable land must come first for future generations. Maximize local food production. Other developed sites in Nanaimo can be invested in for more housing. Nanaimo really needs more large parks as our population explodes.
- To preserve the 5 acres lot for the environment and agricultural use.
- There are other areas of town that are not parks that can be utilized for housing. Especially at a much higher density that would be supported here.
- At this point the city needs to be preserving food security, biodiversity and a sense of community. Five acres farm is pivotally central to all of those mandates. Why not use empty unused commercial land or buy the houses sitting empty because they need work and use those properties to house folks?
- This area is ideal for farming and education and should continue to be used as such, and preserving the wetlands.
- It is important to preserve this space for educational and agricultural purposes. Although it's one thing to preserve the wetlands because its protection status means we HAVE to, it would speak more to the cities intention to environmental protection if this heritage site remained undeveloped and unspoiled by unnecessary construction. If affordable housing is a serious concern the city is intent on resolving, they will find another development option else where.
- Maximum space preserved for agricultural purpose.
- Nanaimo needs more local food sources & green spaces! In addition, the proposal to offer townhouses as affordable housing does not efficiently uses the space available; in terms of creating enough housing to cater to the demands on the city, buildings that can house several families (i.e. duplexes, triplexes, apartments) would be a better answer to the housing crisis.
- It offers the most farmland / reflective of feudalism.
- This option offers the most affordable landscape for homeless people to camp.
- It offers the best redevelopment potential in the future as the area gentrifies and becomes more expensive. It could then be used for an apartment building / commercial space.
- Where families could live in a 5 minute zone and help solve climate change by a structural change to individual lifestyles.
- Not fully committing to urbanization is not in alignment with UN goals. Where it's best to leave it so it can be developed in the future.
- Affordable housing is essential, but should be built upwards, not through infilling the scant green space and farm areas left in Nanaimo. If the land can be used for education and farm purposes, that will produce a more climate change adaptive Nanaimo.
- I thought this was always the idea, when the project was being advocated for and many residents rallied and raised funds to buy the land — that it would be preserved for agricultural use. There are so few intact spaces, especially city-owned, for growing food in town that I can't comprehend why the city would want to squeeze housing onto it as well. Affordable housing is desperately needed, but not at the expense of local food security.
- We need to protect farm land
- The farm land and wetland should be entirely protected. I think it's short-sighted to pave over arable land for housing, especially when Nanaimo has so many abandoned lots and industrial

areas which could be re-developed instead.

- We need to protect farmland as well as the wetlands
- Local and urban farming is needed here in Nanaimo and this option provides the most space for it. It is also the plan most in keeping with the history of the property and provides respect for the work done here.
- Want to preserve & protect active agriculture land within the City's boundaries. Plenary of options to build housing elsewhere.
- Keep this 5 acre parcel intact as public land, preferably to be used for food production : urban gardening / farming education for all ages
- I prefer land use for farming and preservation of the wetlands
- This property is a Gem!! A rare, productive Urban Farm with fertile soil from Organic Farming, Compost and previous Animal grazing and a very Sunny Exposure, should be protected and not have housing impacting this land! We need Fresh Produce in the City, and have lost almost all our Historical 5 Acre Farms. This is a prime opportunity to have a working Farm for food and educational purposes plus Green Space for the public, in the midst of all the housing that sits on top of previous farms.
- To preserve the farmland-good soil should not have housing. Use other less fertile land for housing. Keep the original property intact as intended.
- I believe this best honours the exceptional history of this farm and the names of those who have devoted their lives to it. I also love the concept of preserving urban sustainable farming in the Harewood district where I live.
- To preserve the last five acre farm intact as it was intended. By encroaching on the farm once it makes it very easy to do it again.
- I would like the City to retain the current use designation of the Five-Acre Farm - food production
- all farm and growing food with education
- We need to protect this park and important community agriculture space. Focus housing and development projects on other parking lots / paved areas that the City already owns.
- More opportunities for agricultural-focused activities.
- This SOIL is too valuable to cover/destroy it with buildings. This option has no construction on. Farmland is sacred, it produces FOOD, HEALTHY, LOCAL FOOD.
- I would prefer all the land be kept as farm land. This is the next best option. Housing is important. However it takes foresight to know that we need to keep as much farm land as possible. And we have an invaluable opportunity to make a choice that future generations will thank us for.
- This has been a farm ever since the 5 acres area was developed. I have lived in the area for 33 years and have seen the development take hold. Food security and the lessons that can come from it to the young is invaluable going forward. With all levels of schools close at hand and VIU involved it is a perfect teaching venue for all.
- We need to preserve our farmland space so I feel that this should be left as is and you need to find somewhere else for your affordable housing where it doesn't cut into farmland space already successfully being used for farmland.
- More farm land and food security
- Just would like to see a community vegetable co-op and park space
- There are a lot of places to build houses but places to grow food are becoming more and more limited
- Local food security and sustainability matters. There is only so much land fit for agriculture, hence it is wise to build affordable housing on those lands not fit for farming.

- Leave the plot for farming. There are so few five acre plots left in Harewood and still so much other land that can be developed.
- This whole property would serve the community best as an intact site for urban agriculture, with the protected wetland and other protected features. I trust that the city of Nanaimo has or can find other sites for affordable housing. We need that too, but not here!!
- I do NOT want any housing on this property It is for agriculture.....
- We do not have a Park in this Area. Traffic concerns.
- Second person living in the house
- I think housing is needed, but this area in particular is so small & green already – it just makes sense to leverage that vs. trying to fit housing into it.
- The struggle with any sort of low-income housing too is that it brings (no offence to anyone) rougher families that potentially have drug/alcohol abuse happening which, in turn, can negatively affect the neighbourhood and school catchment!
- Because I think it should all be green space.
- I believe the farmland should be protected.
- My understanding of the original vision was that there was a big communal kitchen for processing food, and the housing was for people with disabilities who would work the land.
- I don't see that in these plans, and I question whether capacity to coordinate all those things would be likely. Therefore, keeping all the land as farmland that will provide opportunities for disabled folks to work and grow food seems as close to the original intent as is currently possible.
- Because green land is precious. We will need it in the future to find somewhere quiet to go.
- I like carrots
- Farm land is essential to survival?
- Use a lot of carrots
- I live in the house on the property and we love this house so much and don't want to see it be demolished for "affordable" housing when everyone knows damn well it won't be the least bit affordable unless you are making six figures a year.
- As a south end resident this location is one of the heart beats of Harewood, while I'm sensitive and aware of the lack of housing in our town, we need more community support and development for the south end residents.
- This is already a densely populated area with only a tiny corner park for recreation. There are other developments already in the works, people will need safe places to explore.
- Considering the frighteningly unstable and vulnerable state of food security in Nanaimo I think it is more important now than ever to expand upon urban agriculture operations towards the goal of us all becoming less dependent upon importing off-island food as our primary sustenance.
- Community food security, and a thriving, deeply established and productive agrarian society and economic driver that builds and protects biodiversity are some of the most important and key markers of healthy communities.
- Corporate agriculture and food supply chains are not only some of the most destructive and exploitative, but our dependence on them has rendered us all extremely vulnerable, food costs not only becoming grossly expensive, but also exports economic power to faraway industries, corporations and banking institutions – nameless, faceless people whose well-being, safety and ecological health we are unaccountable to – as opposed to circulating within our community in a sustainable and empowering way.
- Thus why I personally must vote for the 100% food production, education and wetland protection plans – primarily for the sake of restoring urban food security.

- I oppose using established urban agricultural land for housing. I do not oppose affordable housing in our neighbourhood and I suggest the property at 862? Park that is up for sale
- Because we must keep what agricultural land we have in tact!!!!
- Maximizing park space and connection to food production seems important to the mental well being of the neighborhood
- There are many reasons why we should choose to protect this historical piece of land and keep it a green space.
- 1. Food security and education for the neighborhood. We live on an island we should preserve more food security options haven't the pandemic teach us anything? Are we emergency prepared for when we are cut off from food sources getting ship in we can live off the land?
- 2. There are affordable housing projects happening in Harewood already. We should preserve the historical site and it's so convenient as it is across from a school. Education is valuable and preserving our heritage in Harewood is also valuable
- 3. I'm seeing diminish green initiative in nanaimo. Green helps cool the earth. Green is our goal and yet we spend money on astro turf by Barbsy, put in a Greenway that is more like a concrete way. Parks are getting taken out. The surround neighborhood is all concrete. Building housing on this site will just take away more space and put more concrete in our town. It's like the song "pave paradise put up a parking lot"
- 4. This deserve to be said twice but outside of shelter we need food. Outside of the climate crisis we need more Greenspan. Outside of development we need ancestor, history, education.
- preserves nature the most , ---does not destroy precious nature for housing
- Nanaimo does not have to continue to grow and become more densely populated... we are at limited resources for water and services at the stage that we are at now. Our taxes increase with not much to show for it. Added parkland would be great, and community gardens.
- To keep the land for agriculture so we can teach our children and we can grow vegetables for the food bank or sell and raise money for food bank.
- I believe that using the entirety of the land for farming, educational and community purposes would be in the best interest of the well being and health of the community.
- It is a small parcel of land. Don't want to see housing on it.
- Because it is closest to being representative of the 5 acre heritage of the Harewood community of the past
- To protect the integrity of this historic farm.
- Because there is no housing on the farm with this option.
- We need a balance of housing and food production land. Since this piece is all surrounded by housing, it should be left alone to provide food.
- Five Acres Farm holds considerable agricultural, ecological and heritage value. That is not compatible with placing any sort of housing subdivision on the property. You can put affordable housing anywhere. There is only one Five Acres Farm. Do not corrupt it with any kind of housing subdivision. Why does this even need to be stated? How did you get yourselves to the position where you thought this would be okay to build a housing subdivision on Five Acres Farm?
- Lots of empty lots around town that can hopefully be utilized for low income housing as the fertile farm area and wet land is irreplaceable!!
- No housing
- This is what that land should be used for.
- <https://baraga.ca/about/>
- allotments south Burnaby photos

- I have been here, walked the gardens, seen what people are doing, the community that is there. This would be an extension of what the area is already used for. As Nanaimo continues to grow a concerted effort needs to be put in place to create green spaces instead of the unmitigated sprawl that is happening. In a matter of years what we already have will be damaged from overuse. It is already happening. No housing on this land.
- Preserving the environment and nature of the farmland is so valuable for future generations
- While I do think Nanaimo needs more affordable housing options I do not believe this is the right location. Please leave as it is – farmland, educational use etc. I know programs that use this area weekly or more often and it provides so many opportunities. We can definitely find alternative spots for housing.
- #option 5 No housing. Five Acres Farm is special for its farming, nature, and history. We shouldn't build houses on it and ruin what makes it unique. There are plenty of other places for housing. Let's keep the farm as it is.
- Because it's critical to stop swallowing up agricultural/Nature preserve land... and especially in the south.... leave the land alone!
- I believe farming being as sustainable as we can be on our island is of utmost importance. To keep nature as close to natural as we can and limit our chaotic imprint on our home. There are more than enough other places to take down old buildings and build new homes.
- Farmland and parks are important to me. Without food and trees our community is much weaker.
- We have lots of other places to place or expand housing.
- Simple. Leave the land for growing, educational purposes etc. Nanaimo needs this green space. Keep taking away excellent land with the capability to grow and you won't have the need to for housing as people won't exist. There is land that food can not be grown on too rocky etc. Leave good proven farm land for the people to enjoy and experience good wholesome food.
- It would be so amazing to have an intact five acre farm to preserve this important history of Nanaimo. This farm could be such an asset to Nanaimo, with educational components, more park space and for food security.
- I chose the no housing option because I believe that we are going to we need more farm lands, not less, in the future. I would love to see us grow as much local produce as possible, to save on the impacts of shipping it from miles away.
- I think it is a small minded idea to build housing on valuable farm lands.
- Let's build up, not out.
- The city of Nanaimo has already chosen to build housing on the valuable farm lands in the north end of town, at the garden centre site (between Uplands, the Island Highway, and Hammond Bay Rd), let's not make the same mistake again.
- Save good farming land to grow our food, build housing when we can't farm.
- Affordable housing is a priority for our city, however, preserving the farm is also a priority. There is other land available.
- Local food security and wellness programs are most important for this parcel of land.
- To preserve the last bit of urban agricultural space!
- I believe in preserving natural locations within the city for parks and agricultural use. There are many benefits here including natural habitat for bees, birds and other creatures.
- As a sustainability consultant, carbon accountant, permaculture student, and landscape designer, I'm Kelly aware of how important and valuable healthy soils are for both ecological stability and food security.
- At a time when re-wilding cities and calls to action around increasing urban farming and green

spaces is reaching a height, carving up rich, viable farmland for development seems incredibly short-sighted.

- We have plenty of places for housing in Nanaimo that don't disrupt greenspace and agricultural area. We need to protect the value of this space and the value is destroyed if we add housing and unnecessary human traffic.
- As A farmer myself just up the road I understand the importance of Preserving Precious farmland. There are plenty of places to build houses why destroy perfectly good and rare farmland.
- Historical significance. Opportunity to create, develop & ultimately cultivate the future of this city into a story of resilience.
- Least disruptive to current operations.
- Open space less invasive density.
- Maximizes area for food production, creates more teaching and learning of growing and preserving food opportunities for the community. Historic preservation of the 5 acres parcels from the days when mining was established in Nanaimo.
- Housing should not be built on farmland. Once it's gone, it will never come back.
- Five Acres Farm holds considerable agricultural, ecological and heritage value. That is not compatible with placing any sort of housing subdivision on the property. You can put affordable housing anywhere. There is only one Five Acres Farm. Do not use this urban Agriculture property for any kind of housing subdivision.
- I believe it's important to protect food security in Nanaimo
- I chose it because of its agricultural and historical value. Housing is not compatible with intent of this property. The Harewood Neighbourhood Plan intended for this to be green space. There is so much housing that has happened and is in the planning for this area, it is becoming unrecognizable. This would be a gift to future generations.
- Of course housing is extremely important BUT agricultural land and open space within the city is more valuable than housing in this instance. Why not find undeveloped land that is not suitable for agriculture to use for housing?
- I realize low cost housing is a concern but I think we have to recognize food security needs too and protect farmland.
- I chose it because there is no housing present in it. While I do believe there is a dire need for affordable housing in Nanaimo, I also believe there are other ways to address the issue than to sacrifice urban farmland.
- This is a heritage site that should be protected.
- We need to invest in local food security.
- Housing developments should NOT be built on bio diverse land (especially within city limits)
- It is impossible to regain land for food production. There are many other brown field sites in Nanaimo that can support housing density. Importantly in a time of climate change - we need as much green space to be our lungs but also to act as our reservoirs for extra rainfall. The bog needs to have all the land around it preserved in order to do its job. The addition of several hundred tonnes of homes will increase the water table considerably and can cause more flooding for the site.
- Protection all remaining wetlands, and providing permanent space for sustainable food production are the most important steps we can take for future generations.
- food security
- No brainer- develop some of the many barren areas and leave this farm alone. They are doing essential work for our community.
- Farmland should not be developed for housing.
- Do not want housing on the 5 acre farm

- We wish to preserve all farmland in and around Nanaimo.
- Because food security is extremely important and getting more and more important! And this is a representation of the history of nanaimo!
- we need farmland more than housing
- Because we know what affordable housing brings with it so it will eventually kill off the farm and destroy the wetlands. We need areas like this to bring neighborhoods together and still have fresh foods and preserve nature.
- Farm land is incredibly important especially in urban areas and all what the land is currently being used for. It needs to continue without any interruption!
- The social benefits provided by Five Acres Farm has included the production of food for low-income residents, jobs for people with diverse abilities, research opportunities for VIU students, engagement of local seniors in lifelong learning, and support for climate adaptation seed trials. This unique collection of benefits are not provided by any other landscape in the city.
- I want the land to be used for a farm. Food production is very important at this time.
- Because this farm is important and there are better locations to plan and build affordable housing that does not take away from an important project already in place.
- Keep the historic farm as a fully 5 acre farm... Build affordable housing not on farmable land. Make this farm an educational training centre. Build affordable housing on Willow Vardals property adjacent to the 5 acre farm. Make it cohousing so it isn't a soul sucking anti social apartment complex. Don't just make it affordable because when people are isolated, they are sick and cost the government way more in the long run.
- It's important to keep this agricultural and park land in tact.
- I believe farmland is essential in our urban areas
- This is the very last 5 acre parcel of land left in Harewood. If we choose to develop this land, it will be gone forever. This land was bought by the city, supported by us - its citizens, on the premise that this land would be preserved as agricultural land to secure our food sovereignty. I'm certain that mayor and council is familiar with the climate crisis and just how important local food security is in both mitigating increasing GHGs, but also in weathering the storm to come by being able to provide food right here in Nanaimo. Yes, we need housing, but not on account of losing this land.
- It is important that the City preserve and enhance as much as possible of this wonderful treasure.
- The most amount of greenspace possible.
- Things have changed in world food supply and local is best. Yes, we purchased this land with some housing in mind, but we also purchased One Port Drive to provide a transportation hub and we now are moving the bus depot away from there. Things change and the city needs change with them. Right now, green houses could be providing winter greens on that farmland. The old farmhouse could become a farm to table cafe, partnering with sd68 and VIU to provide work and education in food. With the air b n b situation (homes are not hotels) finally being dealt with, we could find another 1000 homes again available for rent in our area.
- We need local food and more access to urban agriculture- particularly ag that is focused on growing soil's capacity to build carbon- to be climate change ready cities. This means growing our ecological literacy as citizens, planners/staff and politicians. Good farmland is not simply the actual growing garden bed- it's all that surrounds and feeds into it that make life possible- the woods, streams, the biodiversity that includes insects, animals etc. Housing on this site threatens this.
- Our food system is heavily reliant on imports. As droughts, floods, fires and soil degradation

through conventional ag continues, our food supply will continue to be threatened. We need to grow our land and skill base for growing food. Urban ag is a crucial skill and community building endeavour and needs to be understood as an investment in growing a sustainable food system that can help us weather the shocks (already not that shocking in their frequency and severity) ahead.

- We also need an abundance of housing that is energy efficient and helps us to meet our climate change targets. Nanaimo is not densely populated so there is a lot of room to densify current housing. We don't need to attack limited farmland to build housing- that's solving one problem by creating another one. Local, organic, regenerative ag AND sustainable, affordable housing is possible and will help us meet climate change targets.
- This whole area used to be farm land and it should have been protected as an agricultural area. Nanaimo has done nothing but sprawl from north to south with little concern for food security. Building more and more single family homes on fertile land is not the answer to a sustainable society. I would like to see MORE farming area on this site and perhaps it could be a model for other farming sites around Nanaimo.
- Affordable housing IS important but let's keep this relatively small piece of undeveloped land just as a park and farm.
- Because the space needs to stay protected and used as farm land or community gardens
- Option 5 - Carrot is best for the neighbourhood. Don't need any more new housing as there is lots happening in the area. More green space is needed and a community garden would be a great idea
- Drats! Too small to make out. I hope I checked the one that leaves her farm as is.
- Because food production, community involvement in that, and protecting wetland and green-space within this City is key to the health and well being of our community as a whole
- I believe it is important to keep green space where possible. There are 32 townhomes being built right down the street on Park avenue and do not see the need for another acre or two of development down the street. I also live on boardwalk avenue and the reason we purchased was because there was a nice green space for our kids to learn and play at where so much of the city has gone into development. We can't keep removing green space in this city and cramp everyone together and become one huge suburb.
- I feel there is enough high density housing in this area, with many new town houses and flats. Most with zero garden. I would love for the agriculture aspect to be developed- maybe community gardens. Food security is vital with many people on fixed incomes and living expenses rising.
- Leave the farm AS IS
- I would like to keep it more as a green agricultural place.
- This is the best option
- Because we need to preserve green spaces and this property has so much to offer the community without housing on it, which would deplete our resources
- I feel we need more recreational space as Harewood has grown exponentially in the last few years and I don't feel we need more housing.
- We need green spaces like this in the city not just outside the city for environmental reasons.
- We have limited farm land and green space within the city limits. There are plenty of other options/land to build any kind of housing in Nanaimo. Destroying, for ever, farm land or green space is narrow-minded (to be polite)
- Far too much development being crammed in everywhere. Build more high-rises instead of housing developments. Leave this property as is and don't destroy Harewood plains.
- No place for housing on farm land.

- This is farm land, not development land.
- Strongly feel that carrot is the best possible option.
- I fully support housing options but In this case I believe the city needs to keep this as a green space and agricultural land for food and learning purposes. There is a large acreage down the street less than a block away being developed into affordable housing, so I don't think this is a necessity right now. We need more green spaces in the city
- No development please
- There is sufficient development in the area
- Our neighborhood requires a community hall to support events and functions, classes like yoga, community support classes to help young adults and seniors.
- Have a Stage in the hall for musical events, local plays.
- This community hall would present a helpful extension space for local schools to use.
- Have outdoor place for kids to play foot hockey, baseball diamond, maybe a series basketball hoops.
- Lots of park benches, picnic tables. And a couple of security video monitors.
- Building low income housing on this property dose nothing for our neighbour, it just adds more people and takes away the important of a Park. Take the hint, it's on Park Ave isn't it.
- A community hall big enough to support indoor activity like volleyball, basketball for young people.
- What more can I say, Im just a senior
- Nanaimo has very limited agricultural land. This needs to be protected, along with the green space at this location.
- We have been a resident (Weber Street) for 45 years and have enjoyed and benefitted from the property's natural abundance. It benefits the wildlife from birds to frogs and will benefit the entire neighborhood in the future as infilling will continue to remove existing natural habitats of the area.
- Better utilization of space.
- Our food system is heavily reliant on imports and with droughts, floods, fires and soil degradation through conventional ag continues, our food supply will continue to be threatened. We need to grow our land and skill base for growing food. Urban ag is a crucial skill and community building endeavour and needs to be understood as an investment in growing a sustainable food system that can help us weather the shocks (already not that shocking in their frequency and severity) ahead.
- We also need an abundance of housing that is energy efficient and helps us to meet our climate change targets. Nanaimo is not densely populated so there is a lot of room to densify current housing. We don't need to attack limited farmland to build housing- that's solving one problem by creating another one. Local, organic, regenerative ag AND sustainable, affordable housing is possible and will help us meet climate change targets.
- Not only to keep the history of Nanaimo alive but to know that there are only a few 5 acre lots that could be potentially used for farming is disturbing. VIU students should also be a priority for future education and development in agriculture, along with the role of 5 Acres providing not only to those in need, but to those with disabilities and seniors.
- Who else does that in Nanaimo?
- To preserve some of the last agriculture space in South Nanaimo.
- While I fully support affordable housing, farm land for sustainability and resilience during these times takes priority. Housing can come later but this invaluable farm land would be lost forever. The players in food sustainability in our community would be wise to put aside personal issues for the greater good.

- I think the farm should be left to grow the maximum amount of food possible. Homes can be built anywhere; farms cannot. Food and shelter are both needed. We have much more shelter being developed than food which actually reduces our food security.
- Food security first.
- Reduce green house gasses the most
- This is the most protective of the environment and agriculture in one of the last remaining farm sites in town. We need more opportunities for growing local food, not less.
- This property needs to remain as an agricultural zone in the city. most people will never see agriculture and it is good for school children etc.
- Preserve the original concept and protection of farmland!
- Because it doesn't have the black out box .. I don't know what it is to small to see and when enlarged can't see the writing on it
- Food security is important and green spaces need to be kept in tact for animals.
- You cannot protect a wetland by building around it; it's already compromised by the neighbouring houses. Use the existing house as your "community centre/bathroom/interpretive centre" and leave the rest ALONE. It's meant to be a farm, let it be a farm.
- Housing negatively impacts the entire ecosystem of this plot of land. And there is so much housing being built in the area, I argue that land devoted to green space and food production is in higher demand in this neighbourhood.
- No housing. Preserve farmland
- Nanaimo is not a dense city - we need to find housing options that do not disrupt farmland which is critical for our food security.
- It is important to preserve the farmland.
- The City's "need" for housing is never ending. So, and even more importantly, is its need for food. There is a lot of land in the region that is unfavourable for food production but perfectly adequate for housing. In contrast, land suitable for food production is very limited and once it is gone there is no more. Housing on scarce agricultural land is a bad idea and only shows how disconnected some of us are from our ecological roots.
- I chose this option because it is free of new housing. We've lost too much natural habitat in this community already. Several species of birds are missing from our neighbourhood. New housing has encroached on the wet lands and marsh areas between 8th and Park Ave. Affordable housing is necessary, but Park Avenue School is already full. A new school would have to be built next.
- This is what the land has been used for, self sustaining, educational and feeds people of nanaimo. Could remain an educational option for all students.
- We need more green space for large community gardens, regenerative farming, to support the community and to encourage people to grow their own food
- Though we need affordable housing, it is also important to provide models and education for food sustainability. The site can still be available in future for affordable housing, but for now is offering an important service.
- Leave it as a farm, the last one in 5 acres.
- Housing can always be added in the future...time to protect agricultural including the existing fruit and nut trees
- Need more nature
- Food producing land is going to increase in need given increasing water scarcity in countries where we currently import most of our food, particularly the US. Housing can be located elsewhere
- Affordable housing is incredibly important, but so is food security. I believe the farm should

remain as it is now, and that the city should look into other options for affordable housing in the area.

- Leave the farm alone, as previously promised
- There is very little farm land left in Nanaimo. Adding housing will change the drainage, the availability of water, shade and air flow, and generate heat from the parking lot. There are lots of other places affordable housing can be built. If farming and food production remains an objective for this site, those things need to be carefully considered. I think it's also
- Important to keep the 5 acres intact to continue the legacy of the 5 acre parcel history which can be incorporated into an educational component for the community.
- Least amount of construction and retains most greenspace.
- It is the ONLY option. This farm is a heritage site, the whole 5 acres. It is the 1st planned agricultural community in Western Canada and should remain as such. There are plenty of other places, not as sacred as this, to house folks. Let's feed people from this place, let's train people from this place. I thought the City was so very wise in purchasing this heritage property to preserve it for agricultural use. Housing of ANY description does not belong here. Please, please show some forward-thinking and wisdom and keep the entire property as the City's agricultural (and educational) gem that it is. For our children and their children too.
- Agricultural land over housing. There are lots of other locations in Nanaimo for housing but few locations for agriculture and education.
- Fertile land should be left. There are areas better suited for housing. Developing may be easier on flat land but is the lasting cost of loss of habitat worth it. Please leave 5 acres intact.
- So much forest and natural land is being removed for housing. Retaining this land for more urban garden space and education would, I believe, be valuable for this lower income area. Students from Park Ave Elementary went to learn at this farm.
- Retaining the wetland, park space and agriculture is a valuable asset. Thank you for your work in obtaining and creating uses for this land.
- Better access for the general public. Nanaimo needs more urban parks.
- One of the beautiful things about Nanaimo is its green spaces and airiness that comes from not being crowded with housing. The best use of the land is for agriculture. Affordable housing can be relocated.
- The farm and green space is beautiful and something that we believe should be kept without more housing added to a very densely populated area.
- Effects of the affordable housing options on the neighbouring residents.
- We have enough housing development and I might add, none of those developers are contributing to infrastructure improvements in adjacent neighbourhoods/main roads. (i.e. sidewalks!)
- That land should stay as it should and no housing on it
- I believe it's best to preserve as much of the 5 acres farm as possible
- I love farming and local eco systems
- Five Acre farm and the other urban farms in this neighbourhood were a large attraction to us when purchasing our home. We utilize their market on the weekends, contributing to sustainable local food sourcing. We also love that it serves as education for local schools, having friends share experiences with us of taking field trips to the farm for learning. It creates a sense of community in the neighbourhood. There is limited park and trail space in this area and I would love to see it remain as a central component in the neighborhood.
- To save the urban farm land
- It is important to preserve farmland and wetlands within Nanaimo.
- Food security is vitally important in a changing climate.
- Retrain integral footprint for food production ecosystem...build housing elsewhere.

- I'm 100 percent in support of low income housing, but once that farm land is gone, it can never be recovered. Nanaimo has many other vacant lots that would be far more suitable for development.
- I live here, at the old farm house. I don't want it torn down. It's a piece of Hardwood history. Also, I love living on this property...where would we move with housing difficulties we have.
- Densify housing in other areas. Farmland cannot be replaced and must be protected.
- I would like to see this beautiful property preserved as agricultural and wetlands.
- We need more farmland and educational opportunities. There are other places to put housing. Preserve agricultural land!
- We need to keep farmland and protect wetlands and heritage trees
- Green space and agricultural land is vital.
- We need places where people are educated about how to grow their own food, learn about nutrition, etc.
- They can build housing elsewhere. This is still an island, we need trees and farms, leave it alone!
- I like the idea of using the property for just recreation and growing food.
- This land should not be developed as there are plenty of other areas in the city to build on.
- We need to preserve as much farmland as we can. There is already so much development happening in this area. It is nice to have this land as a dedicated space.
- Farm land is being bought out and built on all over the place. This is our chance to keep a small piece of land for food growth to feed our local community.
- Because you need to leave this as farm land.
- preservation
- Property should be left how it is.
- This City NEEDS to grow food! This is the most moral option for a world of climate emergencies and food insecurity.
- It leaves the Agricultural area.
- Farm land needs to be protected just as much as the wetlands – students need to learn about farming we are moving away from people knowing how to feed themselves and coming from a farming community in Alberta that scares me.
- We need farm land, once it's gone it's gone and we will never get it back. Leave the property alone.
- This farm should remain a park and stay undeveloped
- Fewer built amenities. We need to preserve our shared open spaces (parks) as our housing grows denser.
- Leave it allows protected farm and green space
- I want green space to stay green space and to continue to have food from Five Acres to feed my family. There is enough new housing going up everywhere else.
- The concept of "five acre farms" is part of the heritage and history of the area. To provide farm land and sustainability for Harewood residents. It should be honoured and protected. There are many opportunities for affordable housing, but not many opportunities for affordable and sustainable urban agriculture.
- The Carrot best fits the Harewood Community Plan and offers the greatest potential for growing food in Nanaimo during rapidly rising food costs and food insecurity, especially in light of climate change.
- We have lots of housing both affordable and market currently being built in Harewood but this is our last five acre property that is used for growing food. We need to recognize that value. We need more local grown food.

- We already have a number of housing developments of both Affordable and Market Housing being built in Harewood. What we don't have is any other five acre properties dedicated to raising food.
- We need options for urban dwellers to learn about growing food and to possibly even have plots/allotments to actually grow food for themselves within the urban setting. This is going to become more and more necessary for so many reasons. There are plenty of other spots for housing and we have many parks but very few large urban areas that could be used for this small "agricultural" type use.
- While I know Nanaimo has a great need for more affordable housing I think there are plenty of places we can use for that, I believe this little spot of paradise in the middle of the city core should remain free from buildings.
- We need to preserve the lot as this is part of Nanaimo History, Recreational Park is very beneficial to all
- We need to protect farmland and our green spaces or Nanaimo will very soon look like downtown Vancouver. We need food to feed our bellies and the trees are our lungs.
- The entire 5 acre property has immense value beyond trying to slide in another property development. There is ecological value, natural/aesthetic value, value to wildlife, natural and local food production, opportunities for people to learn agricultural practices.
- As a taxpayer it is not my responsibility to supply affordable housing
- Once gone, farm land can not come back. We need to preserve our green space for future generations.
- I grew up in Harewood, one small patch of land would be nice if it was left for the next generation.
- We need to preserve this special land to grow food & educate others about growing food. It's vital to save important green spaces.
- We have enough houses and subdivisions in this area, we really need food security and to preserve our food growing and green spaces.
- We need to keep our food growing farmland and green spaces, we have enough homes in this neighborhood.
- Would like to keep as a learning farm
- In this day and stage it seems to me we need to have more city farms to assist in feeding people good, wholesome food which such city farms provide.
- Although affordable housing is needed in Nanaimo, I think that taking an existing parcel of land that has been used effectively as green space and for urban agriculture and developing it would be a shame. Using this space as educational green space, for leisure activities, and for the production of food would be ideal. Preserving this interesting bit of Nanaimo history is also appealing to me.
- Green space is vital where the locals and others throughout the Nanaimo and visitors can enjoy, learn, participate, and build friendships and so much more. Green space encourages people to get together and grow.
- Because it gives the most farmland. Growing healthy food is the most important thing.
- With the current development frenzy in Nanaimo it is important to have spaces to visit that teach us about history, food sustainability and just open, natural spaces.
- I don't think the vision and heritage of this area can be preserved if there is housing included. Once part of it is housing, it is only a matter of time before someone decides to put in even more housing, it sets a bad precedent. It is important to have undeveloped land in a city, and this piece of land is special and should not be developed in that way. Urban farms are going to become increasingly important as international conflict ramps up and supply chains are

interrupted. It is very important that city folks have an example of how to grow gardens, raise chickens, etc., so that when the time comes we know how to provide food. The city should do everything in their power to promote local urban food production, and a farm program at Five Acres would go a long way to being a part of that.

- Harewood area is losing all its green space. I feel it is very important for future generations to be able to see and enjoy the beauty of wetlands and have the opportunity to be involved in farming practices at a local level. The educational value is huge especially for students attending schools close to the area.
- In my opinion it is important to preserve what little is left of the farmland in Harewood. It's a neighborhood with lots of young families that would benefit from having outdoor recreation and education as a priority.
- The city should be supporting local food supply! We live on an island and we [should have] learned how important our local food supply is during Covid with the constant supply chain issues
- Preserve wetlands and farming area
- I chose this option because first of all I think it definitely honors the time in the history of this community when the owner of the mine gave a five acre plot of land to it employees for they and their family to live on and to farm (besides raising animals, they grew vegetables and fruit for their use).
- more green space and less cutting down of trees
- Options 1-4 are asking too much of this parcel of land. You are putting at risk the wetland and negatively impacting the agricultural productivity of the space. Most importantly, you are destroying the one chance we have of keeping an actual FIVE ACRE historical farm! Harewood has been subjected to poorly planned piecemeal suburban blight, please do not ruin this one piece of natural and agricultural history that what has been miraculously saved in this neighbourhood. You already have an existing rental house on-site that is also historical and in harmony with the rest of the land, keep it as the affordable housing! The greenest building is the one that is already built.
- I would choose this to maintain the farming heritage and educational purposes for the children
- Local food security
- Last historical 5 acre plot left; once its covered with housing, it will never be a farm, the vision of having teaching for elementary/middle/high school with hands on learning; leaving it a farm is contributing to addressing climate change – local food/deliver/use = considerably less greenhouse gas emissions; teaching people where food comes from, how it is grown and how much better it tastes advances moving away from large agriculture miles and miles from here, teaching how to have a productive garden so that, for a few months each year, you too can grow your own food And finally –
- ITS THE RIGHT THING TO DO – We having many large subdivisions in the works for housing and we are not adding any more green space to an already concretized area. This is not just grass on a nice field, it is a working farm. It would be tragic to loose that.
- After reading all options, I felt that all the love and energy put into the area the carrot would be the path of least resistance. It's a treasure to have. Perhaps it can be linked to VIU in some way as a teaching vehicle.
- We need farm space for the children to see food grow
- It's the only option that ensures the farm continues to educate, build community, and provide food. Beyond that, it is the last remaining 5 Acre plot. IMO it should also be respected and

honored. Once we lose it. It's gone.

- We need organic farms in the city. And this will be a PUBLIC farm, so open to many people. The plan & vision for education here at this site is very important & needed. REAL (meaning housing based on income) affordable housing is important for sure, but not on this special, unique site. As Nanaimo & Vancouver Island get more & more people & much more development, this 5 Acre Farm & its original vision are ever more necessary. Find another spot for REAL affordable housing.
- Good security is critical here on Vancouver island and this allows for farming and orchards to continue (which all plans allow) however it has the benefit of having land available to expand the farming. This was after all a farm so it seems short sighted to let potential farm land slip away for housing...as there is no going back. As well, this offers a critical green space within the city where single family houses are close neighbours. Looking at a Google map you can see how little green space there is in the housing developments around 5 Acres. Green spaces, access to nature is know as a critical component for both mental and physical health. Green spaces are also critical for combating climate change...and the city has vowed to act to mitigate the effects of the climate CRISIS. Protecting this existing Green space and farm land (and ensuring land is available for farming expansion to ALSO help with food security here) is 100 percent in alignment with those goals. Building housing is critical of course but not on disappearing farmland. Instead it can be met by allowing more density instead of single family homes. Thank you
- The 5-acre farm has historic and ecological value to our community. Suppose we as a city cannot preserve 5 acres of farm-park land. In that case, it speaks to our inability to envision adapting to climate change, including localizing and supporting our food systems. Surely, we can save ONE five-acre farm site, in the neighbourhood known as the five acres.
- The best way forward spiritually / ecologically / morally / reconciliatory / community-building / climate sensitive / leadership-wise is to preserve the farm as a park. The most fiscally prudent way forward is to build housing to recover investments. Are there less arable and ecologically sensitive lands for building housing in our city?
- Thank you for allowing community input in your process.
- We need to preserve land in cities. Any housing built would be a drop in the bucket. There will never be enough affordable housing given the rate the Canadian population is growing. Land preservation should be the utmost concern.
- Farm land needs to be preserved. There are so many other locations low income housing can be built, but there's very little good farm land left in Nanaimo.
- I know that affordable housing is a pressing current issue. But the climate emergency threatens everyone's food security. We can't grow food overnight, but nor can we learn to grow food overnight. An urban farm is invaluable for Nanaimo residents.
- Same reason Vancouver preserved ALL of Stanley Park.
- We have a desperate need for actual local food supply & the reality is the city of Nan doesn't actually know what affordable housing is so calling it that is a joke. We need to keep this as is (or with thoughtful & useful additions like in option 5)
- Because it is critical to preserve green space and especially for agriculture (locally grown and sourced food) at this time. There are empty buildings, paved lots throughout Nanaimo where new buildings can go in. Gardening this area has, for years, employed people with a wide range of abilities, with various equity challenges, and youth. It has provided an essential eco system from which we benefit for the work it does to support the air we breath and our health and well being. We have uprooted trees and grassy areas at Westwood Lake, many new apart-

ment buildings have gone in near the down town core. This land continually serves to regenerate the area.

- Keep it natural
- Need to keep whatever nature and ecosystem we have
- We need as much park and public space as possible. Especially with the rate of growth and houses being crammed in on tiny lots.
- I don't think we need more social housing in this area of town there is no support services on this side of town
- It's amazing to have this little parcel of green land here. It's a reason we chose to purchase a home here. It's a piece of history, let's keep the one last parcel of land free and thriving.
- Farm land is irreplaceable. The island imports something like 90% of its food needs. Other options for affordable housing need to be looked at.
- Food security is going to be the biggest issue for mankind in our lifetime. Also, once all the boomers die there will be a surplus of housing.
- Keep the area for farming. As our population grows its essential to have satellite farms to support the local area with food to reduce waste, environmental costs and increase food quality and nutritional value.
- We need to preserve this as community-based farmland. There are enough other spaces available to build housing.
- This historical farmland is invaluable to the community. Until the city is able to give more info on the nature of any proposed development, the entire site needs to be protected.
- We need this whole farm to stay intact. This farm borders on our backyard and it means the world to us to be able to farm and enjoy the birds and animals and produce.
- Cities need green space to maintain psychological/emotional health and wellbeing. 2 acres is a SMALL area so it needs to be all green space to have any lasting impact on the community. I worry that the housing would be either elitist or would detract from the green space.
- I think this would serve the community the best. How will people learn about farming and taking care of the earth if they don't get to experience it first hand?
- Food security is of utmost importance. Housing can be put on any land. This property is extremely suited for exactly what it is being used for, not for cheap housing which be obsolete in 60 years. Nature, wildlife, water flow and food production are qualities that cannot be replaced once gone. (Pave Paradise, Put up a Parking Lot... Please don't do that.)
- A 5 acre farm is in no way a large farm. Keep it the land for farming / community educational / park purposes. Ever heard of Heritage Park in Calgary? Let's retain some of Nanaimo's agricultural heritage for god's sakes.
- AS a descendant of one of the original inhabitants of the Five acres Concept I want this area preserved as natural growing area and so that food can be grown and people who need it can be fed. I want children to learn how food is grown. So many children do not know where their food comes from. Growing up on my grandparents property I knew where it and how it was grown. My choice of the carrot reminds me of the many carrots that my grandparents grew and that I ate and they shared with their neighbours.
- Keeping it farm land is important.
- The need for agricultural land is greater than housing that can be put anywhere. No need to put in on a farm. It is a unique property that should remain as it is.
- I feel it is important to prevent development on the five acre parcel. While I understand the need for housing, the need for historical and cultural values, as well as our need for a safe walking area off-road, and a nature-viewing area in this community far exceeds putting hous-

ing here. There are plenty of other housing developments occurring in this neighbourhood, which simply increases the need for a quiet farm and park to visit. Food security is very important and this farm not only provides that, but also provides healthy eating options for low-income families in our community.

- Five Acres is Five Acres, not fewer. This is one of the last five acre parcels in Harewood and I do not want to see it developed with buildings and housing.
- Prefer to have one of the last 5 acre farms left in a more natural state.
- I believe this parcel should be reserved for its existing agricultural use
- Because we need to keep it at a farm for a program and people
- Full farm
- I think satellite farms are essentials for the food grid, healthier nutrition levels, connecting locals to the food growing process. Especially this lot with the wet lands to protect
- While there is a housing shortage, it is not a small island. There is also a shortage of pollinators and other such green spaces to facilitate them. Locally grown food is equally important for a healthy living environment. There are many plots of land that can be used to set up affordable housing, but a local farm should be the last choice. This city has no shortage of empty concrete slabs in town that would be far more suited to such a purchase.
- We are losing too much of our agricultural space. This has benefited many people. It has taught people about gardens and farm. The produce grown there has been a definite benefit to many people in the community
- My kids grew up with the family that own this farm it would be a shame to put low income housing there. I think its idea to keep it as a park, a beautiful walk way through nature, and keep growing food for the community. It's the last beautiful piece of property in the area. Would be so nice to preserve it. We have so many wonderful memories of that farm through the years. I also think putting more housing in this area is not a good idea for the school situation. As it stands now the boundaries have already change, I have lived in this area for 34 years and my children went to Park Ave and now my Neighbors have been told their kids and grand-kids, need to go to Georgia Avenue. So sad when their parents went to that school and now their kids can't go to the closest school to them. More housing is just going make Park Ave even more over crowded and Boundaries will change again.
- I like the idea of all park and wetland
- We do not want new housing built on this beautiful community farm. We enjoy the peacefulness and nature in our backyard, in fact, it's a major reason why we bought this home a year and a half ago.
- This last acreage from our historic past should be kept as the green space it has always been
- The property should stay a natural undeveloped area for food use, community gatherings, and shared space for agricultural learning.
- I am in favor of high density housing but with green space. There is significant housing in the area and I see option five as the best way to also have some green space to balance the recent increase in housing. Option 5 is the best way to make the neighborhood more livable and feel like an actual neighborhood.
- We are losing valuable green space and farmland to housing.
- We don't need more housing in this part of Harewood.
- I like the idea of the plan promoting park and wildlife near the school and residential area.
- I rather see some of the only growing space left in Harewood
- Protecting green space and farmland in Nanaimo's south end gives Nanaimo some character and a neighborhood focus.

- I like what the park is used for now. Being educational and growing fruits and vegetables with the land. We DO NOT need any more housing in this area or any affordable housing.
- I've visited the space previously, it offers a farm for education purposes and offers sustainable food boxes etc. for those in need.
- At the time of purchasing the property and earmarked For affordable housing, there were not as many houses and developments around. I would consider all the new developments quite dense with the multi family housing in the form of suites. There are other developments going around the area as well. This increases the need for community space and parkland. The five acre farm supports many projects, community programs, and a farmer's market that supports the surrounding community, providing local, fresh produce.
- The heritage of the property...perhaps the last 5 acre parcel left. But more than that, in an era where food costs are rising, this site can plan a major role in food sustainability. It needs to be protected.
- It would be more beneficial to keep it solely as farm land and include continued education.
- Give a man vegetables he eats for a day. Teach a man to grow vegetables he eats for life.
- Farmland should remain Farmland for education and community resources
- Not to concrete buildings
- We don't want to loose anymore Farmland. Keep the little green spaces for our children to learn and thrive.
- We need to NOT mess with the soil for growing. It's important to prioritize that
- I chose this option (Carrot - no additional housing) for several reasons. There is another multi-unit housing project slated for rezoning and development not even a half block up on Park Avenue. Parking in the area is already an issue, and I prefer not to see traffic increased in a school zone, where the majority of children walk to commute. Additionally, food access, security and food production education on the island is of greater priority than most realize; on a day-to-day basis with rising economic prices and in the event of a natural disaster. I would prefer to see this land preserved for agricultural use/green space to fulfill this need. It also maintains the last remaining touch of true heritage we have in our neighbourhood. 5 Acres of devoted farmland. I own one of the original 5 Acres farm houses, and I would hate to see this last thread cut. Please, please consider this option and the richness it presents.
- I think the whole site is important to stay as educational food growing and access. It offers a unique opportunity to provide food and educate about this increasingly important topic. There are other sites that can be used for housing.
- Housing should not be built on farmland.
- THERE ARE OTHER LANDS THAT CAN BE USED FOR HOUSING
- This farm is very valuable to the community for learning, producing and healing
- Our community needs to prioritize protection of existing agricultural lands. This historical farm land has much to teach us and we all benefit from "listening to what we can learn from the land". Humans need physical space to learn and grow and heal. And yes, we need housing too, but even more we need connection and community. "Option 5" gives us the opportunity to support, conserve, and grow so much more than food. Land is life.
- Maximum green space preserved
- The city has a unique opportunity to show leadership in promoting and championing food security in an area of the city with a large number of young families. Please don't compromise, instead make a difference by helping to educate our next generations.
- Because I want a farm there. We are losing all our natural spaces and nobody thinks about where our food comes from anymore.

- Food security is paramount.
- As much open space and agricultural land as possible needs to be conserved.
- With the residential growth in the area, the children of today and future generations need green space to learn and play, relax, and connect with the land and others in their community. The proposed recreation space/agricultural land will hopefully benefit all residents in the community and should be preserved for such a purpose. Green space and recreational space are important for promoting positive mental health and healthy behaviours.
- 5 acres isn't a lot of space for agriculture (especially considering the wetland set aside) and as this is the very last historical plot, it should be preserved primarily for its historical purpose, with interpretive signs and opportunities for local residents to participate in the agriculture. With the rising cost of food, future generations will benefit from knowing how to grow their own food.
- We need to protect the farmland we have left.
- Building on farmland needs to be avoided.
- There's plenty of SPRAWLING urban area in Nanaimo, we can improve housing options without taking over more natural land
- Shared land resources for sustainable living must be preserved (especially during this new era of insecurity, which necessitates decentralization toward localized hubs), because once a land resource is covered over with dwellings, realistically, it's lost forever.
- We should have more areas strictly for food production.
- When food shortages are anticipated and job opportunities are being replaced by AI, why would we remove land that feeds, employs, & contributes to the well-being & needs of the community?
- We need more farmland
- I think the opportunity to have community farmland like this is too good to pass up. WE need housing but we also need to engage people in growing food and in nature and this property has all of that.
- I like that this choice includes solely farming, recreation, and educational purposes only.
- We need to preserve as much agricultural land as possible here in Nanaimo. There is already another project in the Harewood area which is taking a park and rezoning it for apartments. This is a loss to the community all round. There are lots of land available for affordable housing elsewhere in the community. Let's look at the North end of town, particularly along Hammond Bay road for instance.
- Nanaimo does not have enough natural spaces so I think it is important to preserve as much as we can whenever the opportunity arises. It seems every available bit of land is snatched up mainly by developers for housing. We need as much of natural places as we can to provide for plants, birds and whatever wildlife there is available.
- Kept for agricultural purposes. Find land elsewhere for affordable housing. This is the last 5 acre plot of land in Harewood. Keep it for growing food. PLEASE!!!
- It is perfect for agricultural use; and should be kept as such.
- More green spaces and there are very few farming areas left in Nanaimo.
- It leaves the space as needed farm area. Affordable housing is needed, but that's not what would end up there.
- Having local spaces to grow food is very important.
- We don't need more density in the South. We have multiple housing options already in place. There is an Elementary School across the street and it will benefit the neighborhood to have proper park space and a teaching area that protects heritage farmlands.

- It's the option that best reflects what I believe our community would benefit from the most
- I worked this land. I have a personal connection to both the soil and the whole area.
- There are lots of places to put affordable housing, and half the time so-called affordable housing is not affordable anyway. There are far fewer places to grow food, and grown food is always grown food and good for consumption.
- I want the land saved for agriculture production, teaching, and learning opportunities
- Food security is essential.
- We need to preserve wild spaces and farmland. While housing is required, there is no good reason we can't put someone top of retail space existing already. Meanwhile large agricultural areas continue to be chopped up into smaller lots, trees cut down, houses built, farmland lost. This is a unique opportunity to combine farmscape, wildscape and parkscape.
- I think this would be great as an interactive site for the kiddos, connecting them to the land
- I believe urban park, wild and farmlands should be protected and affordable housing should be carved out of existing housing stock (ie city buys buildings or builds new ones in parts of the city already zoned for housing).
- All of the 5 acre farms have been covered with houses and apartment buildings. Would be nice to see one saved as an example of this areas heritage.
- Preserve nature and enhance food security
- Natural areas, particularly ones that can grow food and contain protective infrastructure (wetland) need to be preserved. This parcel of land as is currently being used serves many worthwhile purposes. It would be foolish to put housing on it. Why is the city even spending money on it? Its fine as it is. We don't need more asphalt, concrete, manicured walkways, and buildings. Affordable housing can be built on land that is unused; for example, there is an abundance of unused space across the road at the Salvation Army.
- Keep the farm and natural environment. Remnants of this last agricultural space in S Nanaimo. The Green space is the best part about Nanaimo. Food sustainability and buying farm food from the city is a gift. There will be big housing going up in Chase in the next number of years and there are other locations that can be looked at. Or make the housing for the farm workers.
- Because if we need to save anything, we need to save what is left of our urban farms and fiercely protect them. We have very few healthy, local farms these days and if we are to reduce our footprint and live sustainably, then preserving our urban farms is the only viable solution. It is absolutely abhorrent that the city would even begin to consider changing this farm and what it does for and gives back to the community. Please stop being complicit in the giving away of our last shreds of hope for a healthy existence in this already raped and barely hanging on land & soil.
- Keep the land protected and for educational use
- Cultural preservation. Food security for Nanaimo
- I think that affordable housing can be done elsewhere. It just doesn't fit the purpose of this parcel of land, which should be used for agricultural purposes.
- This lot has a wetland and adjacent farmland which are both very valuable to the climate and biodiversity crisis. There should be better place to put houses.
- We need to protect our farmland and this current model allows for education both through farm tours and partnership with VIU's agricultural program Food security is paramount in the Island.
- Do not build housing!!!
- Love carrots! Need cheaper food options locally.
- I get housing is important ... so is being able to eat and grow your own food. In terms of climate

change wetlands do a lot of filtering, people who live in condos, apartments could grow their food. Otherwise they are dependent on the prices in grocery store.

- Once farms are gone they are gone. You can build houses anywhere as this city has demonstrated. You won't get farmland back.
- I am very much opposed to any development of this farm for general housing purposes. The plot should stay intact for many reasons – its value should not be diminished by development. We know all about the “thin edge of the wedge” and “death by 1000 cuts”.
- While we are in a critical housing crisis, we also must protect agricultural land within our city.
- Because the land would be used solely for farming and recreation.
- Nanaimo needs its greenspace and its agriculture to maintain its character
- Save existing area. Put needed affordable housing elsewhere.
- Because I want it to remain a five acre farm. There are many locations to build around the city and this is one of the last working farms. All others have already been built on.
- Agricultural and park development focus.
- We need to plan for green space and food security as a major consideration in our growing community. Housing is important by prime agricultural land should be set aside as such.
- Our community needs to secure our own production of food
- Because I think this space should be saved as a park and food growing educational ecosystem.
- The lack of a new housing component as Harewood has in the past few years become intolerably congested.
- Food security is going to become critical. We need to preserve land for future use providing food crops. This is why WE bought the farm.
- We import almost all of our food on this island, if the ferry stops running or California stops selling us food we are in a mess. Furthermore it feels as though greenspace is disappearing quickly as every available bit of land is developed. I would like us to hold on the more of it.
- Affordable housing is important but should be earmarked elsewhere than limited farmland. We need to increase our environmental and self sustainability.
- City needs more protected park land
- The farm has significance as a five acres property for: 1. community agriculture and 2. community engagement and hands learning in agriculture, education, and 3. historically as the last five acres parcel that were a part of the countries first planned food security strategies for a community. This area of Nanaimo is being heavily developed. The immediate community members support having a community green space and see the highest use of the property for food security/food production, environmental conservation, and community education. This was established by the MABRRI community survey in 2017. <https://mabrri.viu.ca/sites/default/files/2017-five-acres-farm-values-analysis.pdf>
- I feel that we should not be getting rid of any agricultural land, it is too important to our community and the environment.
- I feel farming land is valuable and is scarce in nanaimo.
- Not enough information on what exactly is going to happen and how big of a housing unit will be built.
- There are enough houses in this area. And ninth, eighth, and Park Ave can not accommodate anymore traffic.
- I know it's far easier and cheaper to develop farm land than other spaces, but once farm land is developed it can never return to farm land; the soil is ruined. Let's keep this space for education and agriculture uses and develop other properties for housing. There are not enough

farm land in the city limits, you can never gain this back once lost.

- I'd like this area to be kept as natural and protected as possible, and I think building affordable housing in this lot will disturb the local wildlife too much.
- it is the only 5 acre parcel left
- While I see the need for affordable housing, I equally support the necessity and importance of food production and protection of wetland. When gone, 5 Acres is not retrievable. It is too special for this to happen!
- I've lived in this neighbourhood for over 15 years and have seen it built up immensely, we need to save some green space.
- Last farm left in Nanaimo Housing should be built on non agricultural land
- Leave such a special last farm alone. Green space needs to be in our community. Especially this special oh so important place. Enough is enough. Yes we need housing but not here!!!
- Agricultural land needs to be preserved for food security.
- Best option.
- It can never be replaced it is a gem
- All agricultural land and wetlands should be protected.
- Importance of urban farming for sustainability
- The historical and cultural significance. Let's not lose this to more development.
- Undeveloped farm land in the city of Nanaimo is rare and once the land is developed it is gone forever.
- Future generations NEED to see what beautiful spaces we used to have before everything was developed and every tree was cut down. Please. Don't pave paradise and put up a parking lot. Or a housing development. There is other land available. Don't take the very last five acre farm. This shouldn't even be on the table.
- It is vital to protect farmland from urban development. Low density areas, especially extensive parking lots and strip malls should be redeveloped to meet the need for housing instead of valuable natural and agricultural areas which are irreplaceable. Option 5 protects the whole 5-acres.
- We need to preserve local historic sites. Especially those that provide FOOD for the residents of Nanaimo. There are other places where housing can be built.
- There are still many lots and options for development in and around Nanaimo without taking away important farming properties such as this one.
- Once construction begins, you can't go back to natural.
- I think there is so little farm space inside the city, it's something unique that gives Nanaimo character. Let everyone enjoy the green space with a park.
- This land is historically and agriculturally very important.
- Green space
- There are other options for housing
- Already losing too much farm and green space in the city.
- This needs to remain all farm land and protected wetlands. Affordable housing can go elsewhere.
- This farm is one of the last places of this kind in the city. It is connected to the community providing valuable resources not only in form of the produce but also education. Collaboration with schools and other organizations help understand the history and importance of the community we live in. The City of Nanaimo must respect that. Better look closer at abandoned lots or empty buildings for this kind of development. Don't destroy life! (Plants, insects, animals living on the Farm).

- We need more opportunities for local food production and education
- The area around the farm is already too dense with many new houses being built within recent years. I'd love to see the farm intact and provide more chances for urban growing and planting.
- Need more farms
- I believe farm land and educational opportunities should be preserved
- We need the green space and education opportunities
- There are many other ways to develop affordable housing, but no way to recreate farmland or natural space once it's gone.
- Open tracts of land for farming and park use are essential to any community's health.
- Green space is essential in a city, as is the ability to grow our own food for those in need.
- I believe that keeping this space in as much of a natural/agricultural mix would be most beneficial.
- Because this does not need to have residential development
- Food security is as much an issue as affordable housing,
- Good farmland is a scarce resource. It's better to find vacant land that hasn't been put to productive use.
- There are other areas that can be developed. But this is the only function farm. It provides food security. It provides education.
- This space should be preserved without the impact of housing.
- Local community farming is of the utmost importance.
- And to have it grow in the new described 15 minute city, works.
- That's shopping local!
- Because there are enough areas that can already be developed for low income housing. We need to have more farms producing foods on the island. We cannot continue to depend on the mainland. It is our responsibility to be self sustainable.
- Stop Developing Near Schools!
- we need the full farm/park space in the city
- There are so many places for affordable housing. Look along Nicol street, clean it up put affordable housing and leave the precious green space, we need more agricultural/green space
- Farmland is a disappearing, valuable resource, once developed cannot be reclaimed.
- This land is a unique and beautiful space to have in the middle of a residential area, and we should be protecting such spaces. It would be better, and probably easier, to find other land for housing developments; land which isn't already dedicated to farming practices and green space.
- There are not many green spaces in South Nanaimo, especially with the lack of foresight allowing multiple wooded areas to be destroyed in the last few years. Green spaces are essential for health and five acres isn't much to ask for.
- Because I think it should be preserved as the last 5 acre farm & ensure food security.
- The history of the area would be preserved. An invaluable teaching tool for now and future generations.
- Prefer not to have a building on the site. 1) It would block visibility to Mount Benson and change the feel of the site. 2) A large building would negate the historic point of the property. 3) The building would need paving and parking and be a visual blight to the farm.
- I live on Alpen Way. While I agree that there needs to be more affordable housing options in the community, there is already not enough infrastructure to support the population density in this neighbourhood. People have to double-park their cars on their lawn in order to access their own residence, and there are insufficient pedestrian corridors/sidewalks on 9th, Park, and

Bruce. These issues need to be addressed before additional population density is added to the area.

- There is no need to build houses on every plot of open land. There is enough land around the exterior of Nanaimo without clogging up a five acre farm plot.
- Structure development and/or recreational development will irreversibly affect the existing agri-soils which have taken decades to develop.
- Further, the cultural and historic meanings will be diluted or lost. Think: Food Share; organic farming; Samuel Robbins' social vision (when that was in short supply).
- I do not want to see any housing. We are building everywhere lets keep food production growing.
- The use of the land for farming and agriculture is where it should stay, this farm has been long standing and has added a wealth of knowledge to my family and the community.
- We need to keep farm land as farm land. It is already providing things to this community.
- It would make more sense to develop empty city lots, parking lots and other brown sites in the city (ie. downtown), than to develop a green site. Open green space, for parks and urban farming is a much needed amenity in livable cities.
- This is an important historical and agricultural site that needs to be saved to continue to produce local food and educate our community about where our food comes from.
- This option protects the agricultural land the most. The farm is an asset to the community and should be kept in tact.
- This plan maintains the most integrated use of the space without disrupting the wetlands and farming
- Leaves this precious piece of land alone.
- We need to protect our small farmland!
- Because once you start to take it away you will come back later and want more.
- Local food security and farming are vital and this historical site fits that. Housing can be built on empty lots sitting barren not here.
- There are fewer and fewer locations in our city that produce food and teach this production. More housing that is not affordable to low income families and individuals is not a necessity in this city. While much more housing has been approved in Nanaimo, real accessibility for is absent. It seems this council and mayor are unrealistic as to income and needs.
- I felt this option provided a better use of the land, with each element's integration as a whole making for a long term chance for success.
- Food security and education/production are important for the future
- Maximizes the intent of the property without housing.
- Beets are one of my favorites as well as raspberries
- Nanaimo, please do not take yet another short-sighted approach to development. Take away this agricultural land and it is gone forever. Cram more people in but then what when they can't afford their clamshell fruit and veggies that have been trucked in from the US, Mexico, China...There are derelict properties all over this city that the city could buy and develop. Use the land that has already been developed instead of taking away more land that we need to sustain ourselves and the planet.
- I want this space preserved
- Although the city purchased the property to support affordable housing, community recreation, environmental protection and food security, feedback in Phase One clearly indicated that interested parties wanted a no housing option. Council wisely included that option this year.

- This is a historical property, the last of the five acre farms from Nanaimo's coal mining days. Its history should be promoted in signage and name. And if there is any First Nation history that too should be acknowledged.
- I agree affordable housing is needed, but this is a poor location. It has a school (K-7) across the road but there are no nearby retail shops. Public transportation is limited to one line to the Port Place and VIU exchanges. The location favours car transportation over public and bicycle.
- Option five meets four of the five reasons for purchasing this land – the plans will improve on those four. Food security should be expanded from the present area and would be once the farm gets better publicity.
- Loss of one of five acres changes the farm, and makes it much easier for future councillors to take even more until all that is left is a historical footnote.
- I strongly support the Carrot no housing plan – I do not live anywhere near this plot of land, so this is not a NIMBY opinion.
- Food security on the island will soon be an equally urgent issue with far fewer alternative solutions than housing. We can solve the housing crisis without destroying a beloved institution of this city. Do better.
- There is plenty of unused building plots where you can build more housing. No need to destroy more park land especially when it can be utilized for growing food etc.
- Nanaimo is getting over developed, and while I understand that there is a need for more affordable housing I also think that keeping green spaces, especially for potential agriculture production, is important too. Nanaimo needs to keep green spaces, especially with our growing population we will see more demand for green spaces.
- Food security is becoming a very important issue. I realize housing is needed as well, but there are plenty of other potential development areas.
- Our green spaces (especially food producing) are becoming more and more scarce!
- I would like it to remain a 5 acre farm
- I am utterly opposed to any housing or building development on this historic property unless it concerns food production or interaction with nature – ie. rewild parts that are not used for agriculture. People are disconnected from food production, and as our city densifies and endures increasing climate impacts, these types of spaces are critical to protect. We need to be creatively thinking about how to get more green and growing space within the city as our population grows not losing valuable farmland. I DO appreciate the city considering how to deal with the housing crisis but would also challenge them to consider the climate crisis and biodiversity crisis that we also must plan and adapt for. This calls for more food growing and greening everywhere within our cities, not less. Please look for land that is already developed that is underutilized and consider how to have a portion of each development provide equitable green and food-growing spaces and be sponges for extreme wet weather and shaded for extreme heat.
- Farms feed people and the nearer that food production is to urban centres, the easier it is to provide food security to vulnerable members of our population.
- This area should remain a farm. Not all areas are meant for development. Food security is also important. Protect the farm land that City has left. Leave this piece as is. Protect this entire area from development.
- I think the space should be maximized for community farming/local sustainable food production – put affordable housing on already paved parking lots or other unused residential/city land.

- Food security is vital for healthy communities and healthy economies!
- It's important to keep this type of land for future generations.
- I think we need to preserve farm and garden space in our urban areas.
- I believe in protecting food production and less building
- Urban residents need greenspace for survival and quality of life.
- Green space and gardens
- I think food production and preserving parkland is important, and I think the city should stick to its promises when it buys land to protect it from development.
- we need farmland / lots of other places to build
- Because this is the right option
- Nanaimo has lost to much green space and is losing its history while turning into a mini Vancouver.
- I think we should preserve the green space we have in between houses in Harewood.
- It would most likely turn in to the resident's backyard instead what it is today. I think it's a bad idea to build low income housing there.
- I think this is an awesome piece of farmland! All cities should have this! It's what we need to see more of. It teaches kids how and where fresh produce comes from etc. Wetlands need to be protected as well! Once you develop into the area it changes the dynamics of what is there.
- Opposed to any housing on this property
- Preservation of limited green space, food for Foods here.
- To preserve limited green space in area and provide for education/recreation, Food Share
- I like that this area of town still feels on the out skirts. I don't think the school can handle more kids. There are several other developments going up in the near future or are currently happening it just makes this end of town busier.
- long term vision for the health and wellbeing of the community
- There's plenty of space in Harewood to develop affordable housing. This acres would allow the wetland to be protect as well as provide more green space for community leisure/growing options.
- Agricultural land and welt lands are precious and should not be developed
- We need as much food security as possible on the island. We desperately need housing, but it should be built on current residential and commercial land, not local agricultural land. What's stopping us from having housing above all the businesses downtown (I know it's more complicated than this, just dreaming out loud here)?
- Because we need to keep some open farm land. Housing is ok but this isn't the place for it. Wetlands need open fields for birds to enjoy without humans living there.
- Keep the farm and green space going
- To help feed the community and support local
- Farm land this size is irreplaceable. I support building on previously developed lots instead.
- We need food security on the island
- I want this to remain farmland with no development. I am a participant in community farming and grow food on shared land for myself and extended family and community, providing healthy, nutritious and needed vegetables in our diet.
- Green space
- There are many potential housing sites, but this is the last food-producing agricultural farm area in the city. It's also isolated from necessary services, leaving a vulnerable population unsupported if you locate supportive housing there. I live in the South End, practice community gardening for food in local lots. Let's put housing where it belongs- in those disused lots

on Nicol and Victoria and throughout the South End, on the bus routes, and within unpowered transportation distance of stores and services. Leave the farm as food production and wetlands conservation.

- People need to have a sustainable food supply and once farm land has been developed, it is gone from agriculture forever. People also need to learn where their food comes from and will be more likely to do so if it is grown close to home. Farms are green spaces with positive psychological and edible outcomes.
- We are losing agricultural land, and the knowledge of how to grow our own food too fast. Nanaimo is fortunate enough to have a perfect spot left. This farm's value is much more than a piece of land to cover with housing.
- It is important to have green space in the city.
- This is one of the only farming properties left in the City and I want it to stay that way
- I would rather keep the green space. There has already been a lot of development in this area.
- I choose the Carrot option.
- Food is a physiological need. What is the point of housing if you are starving?
- The farm provides food and once you take one acre and build housing, the remaining acres will quickly become councillors' answer for future housing. This will continue until all the farm's useable land is built on. I rank food higher than housing for this parcel of land. Also there is the historical aspect that connects the minor's history and probably First Nation's, to the use of this land. This is the last of its kind remaining within Nanaimo. Keep it for food production, education and enjoyment for all in perpetuity.
- The location is questionable for affordable housing because transportation is limited and no services are within walking distance. If you are having trouble affording housing, this location would require you to have a consistent mode of transportation to access everyday services, an added cost, (ie) a vehicle or taxi.
- I do not live in the area but I volunteer helping with the harvesting and plant maintenance for the Food Security Program that operates using this farmland. This is a beautiful and treasured property, please give it and its history the respect it deserves. Do not destroy this property, when there are so many other more appropriate empty lots within the city that housing could be built on.
- Our nature must be protected, development not only monetizes the land that would normally be open for everyone, sustainable and currently contributes to feeding people, but also poisons the land itself with the process needed to develop it
- We are losing farmland not gaining it. We are worried about food security and this is a working farm that produces food. Keep this last 5 acres intact for generations to come
- We chose option 5; The Carrot to protect all the greenspace and wetlands and current farming and agricultural spaces that can be used for the benefit of our local residents and for educational purposes for our younger generation. There are other places in Nanaimo that are better suited for affordable housing that doesn't include the destruction of this precious and historical land. We are extremely grateful for this preservation. The Bayly family has lived in Harewood on Park Ave since 1940 and we are 4th generation. The Bayly family has much rich history in farming and providing for the citizens of Nanaimo. We ourselves are doing our part on preserving our 3 acres. We sold our 5 acre field that was the last Undeveloped land in this area and saw all the beautiful trees destroyed about 8 years ago and we allowed for housing. We had been told that a lot of the trees about half an acre of mature 100yr old fir trees would be preserved and that did not happen. After seeing our 5 acres fully developed we are in vote to preserve all of the last land in this area. Right now we are currently witnessing the development of our neighbors acreage The Pelons family that she sold and now is being fully devel-

oped for housing. Over the last 10 years we have be completely surrounded by housing development. This area of Park Avenue has seen it share of housing development. When does it stop? We are grateful for this opportunity to voice our opinion and give our vote to completely preserve this land. If the city does historical reference, that wetland use to have salmon run thru it to lay their eggs to have access to Chase River off Nova street. Lets all stick together for our future agricultural growth and preserve this beautiful and rare land.

- Last farm in Harewood. Historical site, city's need farms, education needs to be taught, it's what Harewood was build on farms and families.
- We need to have more protected land for farming and parks within the city. There is lots of derelict sites within the city that could be utilized for housing and it would clean up the city. Leave this little farm alone.
- To protect this land and not develop it.
- Protect green space for people and wild life to enjoy.
- Having more green space in our city is a plus.
- Protect green space.
- I think that the land is beautiful the way it is. The city can put housing else where not where there has already been a good farm establishment settled.
- I support keeping the Five Acre Farm as a place for growing food in an urban environment. No housing.
- We need farmland.
- If you need affordable housing there are lots of other options that could be repurposed. Giving up viable farming land is a horrible idea. Our community has huge food securities that need every bit of help they can get. Taking away land that's being used to grow food is an absolutely atrocious idea.
- Don't use valuable farm land and turn it into housing
- There are plenty other properties for that.
- Preserving as much farmland is important to fulfill the purpose of this spot.
- South Nanaimo needs more park space.
- The option without the affordable housing component seems like it will deliver the most bang for the buck. It's also the option that seems the least likely to run into issues with cost overruns. Creating public parks is an appropriate activity for governments. I'm less sure about the government's role creating public housing. I think the private sector is in a better position to do that. The private sector has the experience and would also have some skin in the game, instead of having an endless supply of tax dollars. I am concerned about the cost of housing in Nanaimo, but I don't think this project would have much impact on it. I'm happy to pay taxes as long as the money is put to the best possible use. Developing a park, especially one with an agricultural component could have a large positive impact on the city - particularly the South end.
- The farmland should be preserved. There is enough housing being build right now.
- There is enough development for housing in the South end NEED an area for swimming pool or skating rink
- Need more recreation too much housing development in the South end
- This land is so important in its current community education role. There is already a park across the street.
- There's better options for areas to build housing, a source of local, sustainable food in the midst of economic crises when everything is not affordable, is not an option. Leave the farm alone and build somewhere else.
- Chose Option 5 but the button is not working.

- With the city's constant growth there is a need to protect green spaces specially ones that produce food.
- Once the land is converted to housing, there is no going back. It is lost forever.
- Farming vegetables is very important for teaching and learning about food security. The better option may appease both the housing and farming, but I would rather see the full 5 acres still being farm land. So much food can be produced on the land, if there are enough people, and equipment to make it happen.
- I choose Carrot - to preserve the original purpose of the land and to maintain health/wellness for community.
- I feel this land should be protected as it is a beautiful part of city history and would potentially be less protected and exposed when the housing is put in
- I love the teaching aspect and educational purposes. Farming is important. Teach kids how to live not just shop. Low income housing may be destructive to the areas if disrespectful tenants are present. Seems like people are very destructive these days.
- Simple! - Green space is imperative to people in cities (place to walk, play, breathe freely), Green planting is needed to capture carbon (again imperative to people in cities) to combat climate change, and we are in a location and time where food security is imperative. MOST of our food on Vancouver island comes via truck & ferry - and this last year we have seen how unreliable the ferry travel can be. More imperative though is that as climate change continues we need to be able to grow food closer to the people needing it. Having a 5 acre green space with woods, food production and just open space for people to get outside in amongst development ALSO allows higher density housing around this area. I strongly support the switch from single family homes to multi-home density in Nanaimo - but we need to provide green space for that to work in a healthy way for people who can benefit from multi-home density building.
- We have considerable new housing development in South Nanaimo we need more recreation ice rink swimming pool etc.
- Stick to Craig Evans' vision.
- We need more farmland.
- The benefits of 1 or 2 acres of affordable housing (low density) does not outweigh the benefits of the community parkland, food security, and environmental protection. I would be more likely to support affordable high density on 1 or 2 acres as this would be a better "trade" for the space.
- We are in a climate emergency and we need to find ways to feed our population. There will be a time when California produce will not be sent to Canada so we need all the growing space we can get. If this is good growing soil it would be a shame to pave it over for housing. Housing options should be explored on existing residential or commercial land - not farm land or a nature reserve. Revitalize some of the land in the downtown core for housing.
- I believe our growing city needs to augment the number of nature areas throughout all our neighbourhoods to inspire citizens of all ages to connect more with the outdoors and get off our butts and away from screens! The walkers and visitors to both Piper's Lagoon and Neck Point have increased a lot in these last years, and parking can be an issue on a sunny day.
- Preservation of green space; preservation of agricultural activity
- This is the last parcel of the historic 5 acres farms that is not privately owned and therefore the only remaining opportunity for us to insure that the legacy of at least one of these parcels remains intact. This is the only option that can absolutely insure no compromise to the huge agriculture potential and to the wetland area of the land. Furthermore the neighbourhood would be enriched greatly by having this land as undeveloped natural area in an already

densely developed subdivision.

- My dad grew up in the five acres in the late 20s and early 30s and worked on a few farms. Let's preserve a bit of history.
- SOUTH HAREWOOD HAS ENOUGH HOUSING FOR NOW WE HAVE TO CATCH UP ON RECREATION ICE RINK SWIM POOL
- With BC Government support to create increased housing in residential areas, this provides the opportunity for the City to explore other key needs for the community on this special lot.
- The use for urban farmland is too valuable to lose. The educational value of growing one's own food is also valuable, especially for young people.
- To preserve food growing property
- All for housing, but we need green space too.
- The proposed site of the affordable housing in the other 4 options uses farmable land, leaving less available. In 2022, 16.8% of British Columbians were living in food insecure households. Food insecurity is a social determinant of health and this farm provides unique access to local produce, learning opportunities for the community, opportunities to increase food literacy skills etc. Preserving farmable land on this property should be protected as farmable land in urban areas is difficult to acquire.
- I did not choose one if the options.
- Refer comments below.
- The reason I chose option 5 is because stuffing too many people's families into such a small plot is insulting not only to them but for those of us paying for it.
- If the parcel of land is divided into housing in anyway; the gardening land will slowly be chipped away the following years. Once it's gone; it's gone. If it stays as it is now; in 40/50 years from now it will be treasured and long before that. I've actually visited it and thought it was already protected. AND how grateful I was that the City was preserving it. Guess I was wrong.
- This option has the best possibility for maintaining some modicum of agricultural integrity.
- We need to keep this historical farmland for the community. We have many areas for housing, this is not one that should be developed.
- I chose Carrot because I believe this historic 5 acre farm should remain farmland. I also believe that the wetland should stay untouched.
- Providing people with disabilities to learn and food for low income families.
- I would like 5 acre farm to stay as is. No changes forced upon it by the city.
- It's important for educational purposes and huge to keep farmland growing and producing within our community. Teach people to grow food! Have farmers markets to buy local, affordable, nutritious food!!
- There's other places for affordable housing!! Keep this sacred space and a piece of history as is. NO housing!!!
- Because it has the best carrots
- This 5 acre parcel has always been agricultural land and was purchased with the intention of remaining agricultural. This land has historical significance and is a way for Nanaimo to be more self sufficient in farming and growing food. The farm land/green space is a win/win/win for everyone- we don't have much arable land and it shouldn't be squandered for more housing.....housing can go else where; not on valuable farm land!!!
- Everywhere that you look there are apartment complexes going up. We need to keep this plot as a green space.
- There needs to be some dedicated green spaces left in Nanaimo, especially with preserved natural areas like wetlands, and some community garden/food forest/ag space please.

- There is no greater use for this land than continuing to Farm. Agricultural land in a valley on an island is irreplaceable, and it's shocking to think that this land should be developed otherwise. This is how we feed ourselves. This is how we preserve safe soil, this is a hub for learning and leading by example that I hope the city recognizes. Another green space with "affordable housing."? That's not good enough.
- Not one of these plans joins potential residents of said affordable housing, to living within the farm or contributing to the farm in any way, they are suddenly two separate identities and that's not in the better interest of the farm in any-way.
- Little by little bites of the farm will be voted out. The focus of city development shouldn't be gobbling-up the last refuges for feeding ourselves, literally. Please look at the downtown and waterfront and the abandon buildings that could be reimaged. I would love to see low rise development boom all over the already urban footprint, it's awful right now in the city to stroll behind the down-town facade.
- More to the point, there are several examples of urban farms that thrive and contribute to cities in so many ways far beyond a few homes, this can be a melting pot of good sustainability focused living. A facility for education, and growth.
- Please consider the potential of the farm as a farm.
- If we don't preserve our green environments then we won't have the pollinators and other beneficial needed to grow the food and keep the environment healthy - for everyone and everything. Housing may be needed, but not on farmland!
- It offers something for all, walking areas, gardens somewhere for senior's family to go and escape the busy city life.
- I like the idea of more affordable housing, but why does it need to be on the last remaining heritage farm plot in Harewood? I think our social culture would benefit more from better utilization of public agriculture land than more houses. Have community programming here, but build the non market housing and affordable housing somewhere nearby instead.
- Preserving the integrity and historical aspect of this property is necessary.
- This is the wrong location for housing. Let's maximize our local food production and find a more appropriate location for housing.
- Trust me when I say that as a renter I understand the urgent need for affordable housing, but I do not support the construction of housing on this property. I believe the city made a mistake in 2019 when it used a portion of funds set aside for acquisition of future housing sites to purchase this property. It was very clear at the time, and is still very clear, that the community strongly supports the preservation of this farm in its entirety. It is the last historic five acre farm in Harewood, a living piece of agricultural history and Nanaimo history. When we think of historic preservation we usually think of architecture. In this case it is a working class history, but it's no less significant or worthy.
- Hundreds of units of affordable housing are slated to be built in Harewood in the coming years. The city owns many other properties that can be developed for housing. There is no need to destroy this farm. I would urge the city to think bigger picture when it comes to this property. Partner with a community organization that has the capacity and desire to expand the agricultural footprint on the property, bring back the Saturday markets that welcomed the community onto the farm, deepen the relationships between the farm and our educational institutions. The real opportunity that this property offers is as a place to collectively re-engage and re-learn the skills require to grow food. A crucial connection between our agricultural past and future, as our food systems become more and more precarious.
- There are many locations that can support housing, but only one historic five acre farm. It should be preserved.

- This area is already in need of green public spaces and subject to higher development rates than other areas (e.g. north nanaimo/departure bay). Maintaining this entire area as public land for parks, conservation and farming is an excellent tool for community engagement, educational programs and improvement of well being. — affordable housing is needed, but it should be spread out throughout the city. Mixing high and low income families is more likely to result in long term societal benefits. Let's do affordable housing everywhere! But let's also prioritize conservation areas, parks and productive farmland.
- Nanaimo, and Harewood in particular, has a severe lack of land that is committed to food production and education around food growing. Growing food is literally the most important thing we do as a society. This piece of land has been thoughtfully put aside by the city for the purpose of farming and education. That is what the entirety of this land should be used for. The only way that I would be supportive of options that include housing would be a place for farmers or farm workers to live. And only if the housing was situated above other agricultural buildings like barns, food processing buildings, or a market/retail/farm store. Even then there is far more housing developments than farm land in Nanaimo.
- This is our one and only chance to retain the last shreds of farmland in our city. Don't turn it into houses. Keep it a place where people can come and learn about food and food production.
- Affordable housing should be spread throughout the city and not concentrated in one area. I think agriculture and green spaces and wetlands should be protected.
- Easy to grow year round.

Question 3: Do you have any other comments?

- It would be nice if the existing farm house could be preserved on the site for potential use as a group home (contact NACL?) or as a community kitchen or food-related amenity centre, or even just a community space. It seems like a waste to remove a house that is already present if it could be put to good use in the community.
- This is a totally pointless and political move. Let's look in the north end, near the politicians, where this development can be built.
- I am happy that we have the freedom to say build nothing. But, only if it means we are being listened to.
- I appreciate that the city provided an option that has no housing. Craig Evans would be happy too!
- Although I am also concerned with affordable housing, I think there must be other locations you can use for that purpose & leave this area for agricultural, educational & recreational purposes.
- Any housing should be for farm operators and workers. The farm will not be sustainable unless there is continuity in operations
- Yes stop asking us what we want we told you we don't want anything other then it to stay a farm! Get the message!
- The farm house should be used as a teaching space
- The ecosystem here is way too precious and food security is important. We need to use these lands to teach and thrive
- I don't trust the "conceptual" low income housing. If the city actually cared about this in a big way they'd make it happen in places that aren't parks.
- 18 years Nanaimo resident, professional climate change expert.
- If the council believes in the climate crisis, they will not develop this land and will instead find

other avenues. Stop the building of single family homes in urban areas to improve density and double and triple occupancy on existing footprints.

- We can't care about people and climate and also refuse to give up the 1950s colonial picket fence and chunk of land dream.
- Please consider the importance of focusing on food security on Vancouver Island, and the importance of keeping agricultural space free from development.
- Housing can be anywhere else in Nanaimo not on one of the last piece of farmable land in Harewood.
- It would be quite funny to see council actually implement micro-feudalism in the community and it slowly turn to a fine example of community gardens turning into an eye sore. While being capitalized by a small group in the community.
- Yea, there should be a safe injection/ inhalation site there to reduce overdoses.
- Its location is perfect for urbanization and central location is comparable to places like Amsterdam and other European cities.
- A problem in other cities is that infilling of green spaces in poor neighborhoods to provide housing has left poor people without access to any semblance of nature. This helps lead to segregation between rich and poor, because those who can afford it, live in greener areas. As a result, the problems associated with poverty worsen. Keeping farm/green spaces incentivizes those who can afford it to stay in a neighborhood. Wealthy and low income people need to live in the same neighborhoods if we are to help low income people.
- Put housing projects on the large amounts of land around that are not suitable for growing food.
- It's great that the public has some input on these decisions.
- No developers or development on this site!
- I think this could be a superb educational opportunity for our community and possibly a model for community and home gardens. Our wetlands are precious and with the changing climate at great risk. We need to save what we can.
- I hope that this Council will see the long-term benefit of preserving this Historical Farm for Sustainable Agriculture and a great learning opportunity for Future Farmers as well as the students at Park Avenue School! If we want to mitigate Climate Change, we need to start by growing Fresh Produce close to homes!! We need to preserve Urban Farms!
- I am a huge supporter of the concept of affordable housing and agree that the lack thereof is one of our highest priorities. I applaud the commitment of council to support the development of affordable housing. Just not on this unique site with its honourable history.
- Find land that is not agricultural, nor wet land to build on.
- The more land that is designated for residential development the more Nanaimo will grow. I would prefer our population to remain static for several reasons 2 of which are 1. The continual destruction of wildlife habitat and 2. Growth will change the wonderful character of our City in a negative way.
- Important to keep the historical, food security and educational aspects of this area.
- Every Agricultural land, farm land should be protected. Every tree in the city should be protected, healed, helped. Nature is too complex to explain why we need it, but we can not exist without preserved, healthy ecosystem.
- We need to preserve our very unique and special heritage. Housing needs can be met on other properties that are not as perfect as this one is for agricultural, educational and heritage needs. As someone who lives in the area I know of many other properties that can support denser housing options. Please leave this one without housing for the massive benefit of the

citizens of Nanaimo to show not only how one can grow food, enjoy a very unique wetland and the unique ecosystems that thrive there, it also can provide a tangible display of a city that respects and showcases our heritage that is separate from the Bastion.

- This is a rare find in this community so please leave it to continue the extremely beneficial use it already generates.
- Food security is essential
- We have so much housing going up let's keep some garden space
- There are plenty of city land not fit for agriculture. Example: procuring rocky lands closer to malls and other service facilities.
- Part of the agricultural land could be allotments for people to grow their own food, people who don't have garden space at home, who would apply for a space and agree to follow certain conditions in order to have the privilege of using a plot, including paying a modest fee. We need as much agricultural land as possible, accessible to more people within the city.
- The city bought this property with good intentions to keep it for what it is designated for – growing FOOD. So why the turn round to housing? Housing can be put on non arable land – do NOT use good land for houses.
- Carrots, good and healthy
- It would be great to have more park space and field space which is a win in this plan vs the others!
- The other plans' park space is minuscule and would almost not be worth the work for how little it would be. Carrot's plan has room for the park space to "grow" and be more substantial than not which is a win for us as we have 4 (almost 5) little ones in the Park Ave area!
- How are you going to keep the homeless /addicts out? So it is safe for families and the tax-payers to use.
- We need food security! Thanks for all you have done to protect this valuable parcel.
- Not sure what the point is. There's no explanation for the survey. Don't know what we're voting for. Can't zoom in on the photos to SEE what we're voting for. Is this to decide what the kids will grow next spring? Why are there different areas highlighted? Why are we only picking one type of produce? What is the actual goal of this survey? Maybe there could be words to explain this.
- Stop destroying green space in cities it's what makes them nice to live in
- Don't let the government take your land for housing
- The house on 933 Park avenue can't be demolished there's a family living in it and we'd have no where else to live
- Please make it all on leash for dogs
- Affordable housing development is also very much needed in our community, but should probably be focused on land that doesn't have as much agricultural, historical and cultural significance as the Five Acres Farm land does.
- I appreciate the challenge inherent in this decision-making process, though.
- I do not oppose affordable housing in our neighbourhood and I suggest the property at 862? Park that is up for sale
- My second option would have been #4 (raspberry)
- Kids at the elementary school having the opportunity to see human beings and nature working together shapes their worldview in so many positive ways, the psychological benefits to the community by having farmland in their neighborhood cannot be overstated. A sense of food security, climate stabilization, hope for the future, faith in humanity, are all intrinsic effects on the psychological ambiance of the minds of individuals when they connect with nature. Five acres farm can be a massive tool in shaping a positive outlook on the future for the youth in

this community.

- Let the carrot grow!
- this rare large piece of farmland deserves to be
- preserved for future generations,
- I believe Nanaimo Food Share had really utilized the park avenue farm and has been great partners to the city of Nanaimo.
- Consider implementing incentives for food sovereignty, become a leader in Canada and support urban and suburban farming initiatives, Nanaimo can be food independent.
- It doesn't matter whether it's carrots; this isn't about choosing a type of vegetable. It's about protecting this farm land, and if it becomes protected as such whoever is caretaking the farm should choose what goes where as far as planting goes – the public nor the city is qualified to choose what should be there.
- Food security is even more important than enough housing. Both are important of course.
- Don't build a housing subdivision on Five Acres Farm.
- Please help save Nanaimo's integrity and sustainability. Lived here my whole life and am currently raising our family here.
- We need food security to be successful in the current economy as well as living in an island.
- We need protected green spaces to help survive the state of the climate change and take stress off of our environment.
- Adding supported housing infrastructure could have a negative effect on the entire farmland.
- NA
- Please do not pave the environment in this situation.
- We need the green space. Leave it alone.
- Affordable housing is important but development in this area is out of control.
- There are other locations to build housing but very few to create natural habitats such as this one that is already here. Please listen to your constituents and do not destroy this existing jewel in our city. Thank you.
- To be clear, I'm a strong proponent for accessible housing – particularly on the subject of free housing for our unhoused populations, and happy to be a YIMBY for the cause. This particular plot of land, however, is not the right spot for that. We need to bolster our urban farm spaces and wetlands as a priority, and work to densify existing residential areas, not sprawl further into agricultural land.
- The city as a whole needs to do a much better job of protecting agriculture land and greenspace.
- The time is now, if the past few years hasn't been a loud enough of a reminder. We as islanders have to be more self sufficient. (2020–2021 food supply chain) We need locally grown food, and to teach, share, develop the community that lives here to be resilient. This is such an opportunity.
- You should just be leaving the whole thing alone.
- Nanaimo is growing at an alarming rate and losing charm. Hopefully with the increased density the tax base has increased to lower the tax rate on owners.
- Preserving this land as food producing and teaching/learning land is so very important for the community as it is the last standing parcel and something once gone will never ever return. It is the last opportunity to retain this type of land and operations that is vital to the Nanaimo community. Any physical development on this land should only be to enhance food production and preservation knowledge sharing. This land should NOT be used for residential use. IF the city wants to create more housing then add another level to the developments such as the Te'tuxwtun. Build UP not OUT.

- I can't believe the city is even thinking of building on farmland. Housing can be built up. Build elsewhere.
- We need MORE urban Agriculture NOT less. Be a good municipal civic example by preserving this unique & quickly disappearing land use.
- This agricultural lands benefits so many on so many different levels. I can't even imagine why this is a discussion.
- Think of the future. This type of land cannot be replaced after housing is built on it. As the population grows, the opportunity for agriculture within the city will be even more precious.
- We need development policies that encourage low cost housing options as well as park and agricultural lands. E.g. require large developments to put aside land and money for community gardens. Perhaps set up a community garden endowment fund.
- It would be refreshing to see the city show support for local food security and invest in making this site focused on food production.
- Ensure and expand the learning of the site of Five Acres Farms to continue to produce food for low-income residents, provided jobs for people with diverse abilities, offered research opportunities for VIU students, aid local seniors in lifelong learning, and contribute to climate adaptation seed trials.
- Housing can be built on land that is already paved (like where all those new cars are being stored along the waterfront. of course we need housing, but with climate change and drastic declines in biodiversity we have to think of sustainability of the planet first and foremost. thanks for asking our opinions. :)
- Growing food is THE issue of the future, losing this farmland makes no sense.
- We need to be protecting agricultural land
- We've been given a chance to have something special in the Harewood area with the farm and wetlands. Don't ruin it by adding affordable house to the plan. I am sure there are many other areas that would be suitable to include affordable housing without losing what we have with this land. Please don't mess this up of us ... this area would benefit greatly from keeping it as Option No. 5. Thank you.
- I find it questionable that the city would even consider this location.
- There are far too many low cost housing projects in this area, particularly on Sixth Avenue, which is not very far away from this proposed sight. Please chose other areas of Nanaimo.
- Do not use any of this land for housing. Please find other locations!
- I know the hard decision recently made by council to cease natural gas in new housing in Nanaimo took courage, in I imagine, he face of significant lobbying and pressure by oil and gas. I hope this gives staff and council experience and courage to show leadership in planning for local food systems AND affordable housing.
- I am appalled by the sprawl of Nanaimo eating up beautiful and environmentally sensitive areas. The five acres area is one example, next will be the Harewood Plains. The sprawl must be stopped and replaced by densification, and consolidation of communities within Nanaimo with sensible affordable housing and close by amenities.
- Do not wreck this space by putting housing on it
- No new housing needed. More greenspace- parks, community farms are what is needed
- Why can't the city please leave her alone? Small urban Farms will soon be only in history books. Please whoever, please don't let this awesome little urban farm go into the history books? Remember the 100 mile local food shopping?
- This is a gem for our City and provides opportunities for people of all abilities. It should be preserved in perpetuity. There are other sites for housing, or, let's enable more density in existing suitable neighbourhoods. Green space and food production must not be compromised.

- Food sovereignty is a high priority and learning about growing food is priceless.
- Our community needs to retain our green spaces and make smart decisions for future generations.
- Keep the 5 acre farm a 5 acre farm!
- If one looks at the crammed housing development along Wakesiah – think how many more people would have benefited from high-rise living.
- Leave it alone and find out building lot to build on.
- Many other options for housing in Nanaimo.
- Should be preserved
- With the extra development in the upper park area close to 10th this is going to be a very busy area. No more development!
- Yes water park and small water slide for kids
- All the concepts have good ideas. We well understand the need for housing. However this parcel of property is best used as a combination of vegetable gardens and natural habitat
- Affordable housing should be closer to medical amenities ie hospitals
- There is no such thing as “affordable or low cost housing” anywhere right now.
- Let the food experts please put the wellness of the community first. Work together
- Build housing only on non sg lands. Note ag land also requires non stable lands adjacent for accessory uses
- Other areas that aren’t agricultural should be looked at for housing
- Leave nature to nature. Stop usurping neighborhood farmland for developers.
- This is a working farm. The people that work here are our people that have special needs and the people that are running it are amazing. If we take this away from them we will have these people on the streets and in the hospital. That would be a hug cost to the tax payers of Nanaimo. I have seen the good of this farm and it would be a sham to close it.
- Why is this so complicated? Five Acres was a designed farming community; LEAVE IT ALONE. Leave Mossy Rock Farm alone too. KEEP OUR FARMS. I’d rather eat than subsist in a crowded, multifamily-zoned quasi-urban jungle.
- Thank you, Councillor Manly, for proposing the option that features no housing construction on the property.
- What about the fruit & nut trees?!?!
- It seems that back in 1860 the Hudson’s Bay company managers who established the five acre farms were more forward thinking than the current city managers who only seem to think about immediate profits for developers. Take a minute to consider how the never ending stream of new residents are to be fed.
- My second choice would be Option 4 because the housing backs on to an established neighbourhood.
- Please leave the lot as one space with no housing!
- IF it is politically essential to build some affordable housing on the site now (rather than something to be considered in future), then it should be built with minimal impact on the farm ecology. (I’m not sure, but I’m thinking that would be raspberry.) The option of using housing to support farm workers or staff is worth serious consideration.
- Thanks for doing a survey
- I do like the idea for later on adding housing by incorporating a well thought out “farm Hamlet”. But the housing would have to be a green development that works with the agricultural needs of the property and blends in with the surrounding landscape.
- I love the concept Anderson described: “You can terrace into your sun spaces and have growing spaces within your residences as greenhouses that help provide heat to the home. If we

could build a farming community of people who lived there and also worked the land – that would be ideal. I think there was also discussion that people with special needs could be accommodated within the housing of that particular site.”

- What a unique property it could be if it incorporated all these concepts! Until these concepts could be incorporated, I think it's best to keep the land intact for farming.
- Just an observation – why is it that all 5 options are designated with AGRICULTURAL crops! Shouldn't the first 4 have housing icons with small crop pics? Very deceiving and I can't help thinking this was intentional.
- A Professional Agrologist (on leave) with the BCIA endorses carrot 100%.
- There are many other sites in the city for affordable housing.
- Urban farming is a concept that should be explored more. Especially with the constant rising food costs. I'd happily volunteer to learn more about farming and how to grow my own produce.
- Please keep no development
- While I feel that affordable housing should be prioritized by the City of Nanaimo, I would be unimpressed to see a local, small scale farm that contributes to local food sustainability and accessibility taken away. I feel that there are other locations more suitable and this is not a reasonable alternative.
- Nanaimo is a rapidly growing city which means we need to be able to feed people still. Urban farm land is a necessity in Nanaimo.
- Thank you
- I'm sure there are many other options for housing rather than agricultural land!
- Teaches patrons how to grow food, cultivate food, make food, share food! The Island used to have farms all over. Now we got almost none. Leave Park Ave farm alone!
- More local food options are becoming more sought after.
- Check out Britain and the food garden areas they create for their citizens.
- I took my daughter here for a field trip it was the happiest I have seen a bunch of 7 year olds all together ever and they need to learn this if we want them to succeed after us
- Unless a new elementary school is planned for Harewood the schools will be over capacity once the affordable housing is built on 5th street. Seeing as the school district has zero funds for that any bigger housing ideas need to be spread across the city to not overwhelm one area.
- There are many other areas that could be developed into affordable housing you don't need to take this farm away
- I think 5-acre farm should be included in the name of this park.
- Leave Italian Carl land its the last one it should be a heritage site
- Do not destroy this piece of land. Leave it as is.
- We must maximise the amount of grow-able land, and place (affordable) housing on less fertile lands.
- I do not even understand why this is happening when we are trying to decrease our carbon footprint. We all need to eat.
- This is valuable land and we should be focusing on reducing our carbon footprint. This includes growing our own food locally. The City is already encouraging bicycling by building bike lanes and encouraging use of less fossil fuel by disallowing new housing to use gas heating. This is another step in the plan.
- We have been using up so much of the beautiful green spaces we had in Harewood for housing, and its not for affordable housing, it's housing for the most part for people moving to the island from the mainland. We must hold on to some of these spaces!

- Low cost housing is important. There are many empty lots in existing subdivisions of Nanaimo that could be used, instead of destroying farmland and heritage sites. Our grandchildren will thank us for choosing to protect our green spaces.
- We can never have enough park land. Food Share can utilize the land to grow crops as well.
- As someone who was born and raised in Nanaimo it is shocking to see the green spaces that have now become subdivisions. I realize we are a growing community but leaving an operational farm that is giving so much back to this community is leaving a legacy to future generations.
- If preserved this will be a unique place in south Nanaimo that can generate shared public use, education, and recreation.
- We need to encourage people to grow food gardens and fruit trees not lawns. It feels like our City is sabotaging the people who live here. Farmland is important.
- It feels like the City of Nanaimo only cares about taxes and income and not about the people who actually live here.
- I thought the 5 acres was already protected when they had a fundraiser at Port Theatre a few years ago.
- Building more housing is important however it only solves one issue. We need more green spaces in our cities.
- If the city is going to anything with this land, it should absolutely include a proper sidewalk along Park Ave, as there is a serious gap in safe sidewalks along this stretch of road for kids walking to Park Ave school. It has been far too long that kids are walking on the roads to school, and with all the development, this stretch of road is getting busier and busier, and much more dangerous for all these little kids. This should be non-negotiable, and I am tired of hearing the weak excuses that have been made about why the city won't provide a safe walking route to Park Ave school. This is city land, the city should be responsible for putting in a safe sidewalk here.
- Thank you for putting the survey out to the community.
- My opinion about this particular plot of land is not an indication that I don't support affordable housing – I do! But I don't think that encroaching on farmland and adding to an already quickly developing area is necessarily the way. I think that the city should instead focus on ways to support efforts towards a guaranteed livable wage, public mental health and addiction resources, and much needed medical care to existing residents.
- I do not want the farm land to be developed into housing. Save our farm land and support our local farmers and invest in local food supply!
- I strongly think the "carrot" option in this time of climate change will be an important opportunity to present a valuable way of caring for the land and growing vegetables and fruit that connects deeply and honors Nature. Native plants can be used where possible and plants that use water minimally can be planted. Using the four areas in "carrot" for agriculture, instead of smaller areas for agriculture and also having one or two housing developments, will present a stronger image of using land wisely for food in this critical time
- It really bothers me that there's ZERO reference in this survey to the pros/cons for each option; one has to dig deep into the June 2023 staff report to find that information, and one has to scroll way down on the website to even find that report. Without those pros/cons being clearly shown, the public is expected to give input based on visuals that provide little detail and omit a lot of incredibly important information. Specifically, that few of the housing options allow for economically viable developments, and that some of the housing options negatively impact the wetland. It also bothers me that the city has gone and changed the name of the park from Five Acres to Park Avenue; it seems like you're already forging ahead with the idea of

the actual park being less than Five Acres in size. With all the development planned for south of the city in the coming years, Harewood needs every inch of natural area and parkland that it can get. The public shouldn't have to choose between parkland and affordable housing, that is completely unfair.

- It really should be saved for many reasons.
- Families who see food bring grown eat healthier meals.
- I'm low-income and housing precarious as are many of my friends. I know the need for housing firsthand. This site is not the place for it. If it does come to be, it needs to be subsidized, not "affordable", (code for "slightly lower than an outrageous market rate"). It needs to be cutting-edge ecologically and serve as a model that will make us famous for something other than fencing off our green space.
- Save this site & farm in its entirety.
- Yes. I was very upset to see a big parcel of land on old Victoria Rd (close to the Jehovah's church) is going to be developed...not into affordable housing but into storage units. Storage of people's clutter was given priority over affordable housing. This particular spot has easy access to bus, has a small commercial centre close by (Southgate) and is also close to nature. Storage units do not need that but people do. (and yes I intended to speak against this but the date for the public hearing about it was not ever posted on the proposed development sign and I couldn't find it on line so I could not speak against this.
- So it seems very odd that the city council is even considering trying to grab the farm land/ green space out of 5 Acres when they had a perfect opportunity to turn DOWN a developer wanting to build STORAGE and instead require housing to be built there.
- I support creating community farm space that is not monopolized by one organization. The success of this space depends on community engagement. At present, there is an unfair process in how the farmland is being managed by one organization. Like the East Wellington parkland, the five-acre farm is ideal for food foresting, ecologically minded food growing, and inclusive, educationally minded farming practices.
- I wish there were more detailed images of concept housing development. I support housing infrastructure; however, supporting such a vague polygon is hard. If minimal, ecologically minded housing was part of this plan, I would support it - especially if it provided housing for market gardeners on site.
- I support keeping the old farmhouse as a community center/food security hub.
- What would it look like for the city of Nanaimo to hire a permaculturalist or farm manager? This would be like a landscaper position but more useful and purposeful. This could set a precedent for the city using landscapers to grow food and manage ecological spaces for the community instead of managing boulevards or areas with less ecological value.
- The city should lean hard into this space as a jewel in its efforts to engage meaningfully with the climate crisis and educate generations of ecologically/agriculturally literate citizens.
- This is an important property for the farming community of Nanaimo. It has a strong history in Nanaimo. I think it would be a smart move for the city to preserve the farmland and its history. The City keeps saying they support agriculture and food security but keep taking steps in the opposite direction. Developing this farm would be one of those wrong steps.
- Please don't ever cover over farmland / food-growing land with houses. Be more creative with infill, etc. to solve the housing crisis.
- Foresight over Compromise amid never-ending exponential Urban expansion
- Please don't rip up any more green spaces. There are plenty of paved lots and empty buildings to utilize. We are required to consider this now when considering land use.

- Too much building and not saving our nature to keep ecosystem going
- I think we would do best to keep this as open space in the neighborhood that's developing rather quickly they are trying to close down Mossyrock farm and all other areas of Green space around here.
- We do need more affordable housing but not by sacrificing irreplaceable farming land.
- My second choice is apple.
- If a proposal by an ethical developer of a project sustainable to the farm, with actually affordable housing, including units for disabled people was presented, I would have chosen it. These options look like an unethical developer's potential buffet on the last land of its kind. No Way.
- Keep the concrete to a minimum, keep it simple. Try not to spend millions of dollars on the infrastructure, which seems to be the trend these days. Westwood lake parking lot comes to mind, as does Metral drive. There is more concrete than green on Metral now.
- I am in favour of more housing too but just not there - go up, way up if you're going to do affordable housing - or tiny and compact - but no more status quo townhouse or single family development.
- It is good that people are given an opportunity to be able to speak up on what will happen to this very valuable remaining piece of property which is equally part of Nanaimo's history. I was born in Nanaimo but moved around but loyalty to what happens to the area I grew up remains strong 75 years later. I also have a degree in History from VIU and so this decision is equally important to me.
- Please keep the farm.
- I would like to see a sidewalk and bike lane on the Park Ave frontage of this property.
- There is a large subdivision being built very close to this area so affordable housing should be incorporated into that plan.
- Just please leave the farm alone and build anywhere else. We need bees, and flowers, and local agriculture. Knock down an old building or use an empty space in town for housing.
- To put in affordable homes would not help the people who are in dire straits. It will help only those who are making a middle income or better. It doesn't help people of lower income. We need subsidized housing not the so called affordable housing. Affordable housing is a play in words. Leave the agricultural areas alone. We need more green spaces.
- Hope to see option 5 Carrot, be the choice. It will be a nice addition to the neighborhood.
- Please don't build over the farm.
- Keep this for agricultural use for the local community.
- A farmers market in the summers would be a really nice service to provide for the community
- We also need affordable housing. Build up, not out, to keep green space and build affordable homes.
- The waterfowl and amphibians that depends on the wetland; as well as other birds, flying insects, and woodland critters would be greatly displaced with any housing situation on this property.
- I have lived on Park for over 30 years. When I came here, my neighbours lived here for 30 years previous and were forever telling me now 'Five Acres' used to be land as far as the eye could see. I never realised how important that was until the last few years where the housing has grown and is overtaking the greenspace. Thankfully someone thought of a tiny park lot for the children to play but that is not adequate for the amount of children and youth that use that tiny spot. Plan 5 would stimulate the sense of community this area used to have, young and old could and would congregate in the designated park. Harewood is being crammed with new shops and businesses but it feels too tight to move freely because the parking lots

are not designed well. Give the residents a place to walk for health and community.

- Yes I think the process in which the city goes thru to plan these type of things should be changed, I think that will be a question next time we vote. The city uses it to much.
- I have concerns about the schism between Food Share and Growing Opportunities. I don't understand how or why it happened, but it saddens me that 2 initiatives that are so passionate about community food culture cannot seem to get out of their own corners to hold hands for the betterment of everyone. If the site could be kept and managed by a group that can actually make the site reach its potential, both from a food cultivation and neighbourhood gathering place, 5 Acres could be a wonderful community hub.
- More of the land should be applied to align with its current use and be an example to other communities as a leader of feeding people through education.
- Where is your sense of planning? Are you only happy to build up all our free spaces and everything is left are houses and Highrisers within walking?
- Carrot is the ecological choice and that's what is most important here.
- Thank you for your thoughtful process.
- There should be an area for large community garden plots. This would encourage people who don't have garden space to grow their own food. I think having a good children's play area adjacent to this would be great, kids can both play and help in the garden while parents tend the garden. There should be a covered pavilion area. There should also be an education composting area. There should also be a food forest type area with signage. Because the current site is used by Food Share it seems private and not inviting for people to enter and explore.
- Since there exists a workable farm there now that is adjacent to Park Ave School, it would be great to see as much educational input as possible. Perhaps the students could farm the land as part of their school day.
- Choosing to maintain 5 acres as a working farm (option 5) is a decision Nanaimo City Council can be proud of.
- Land that's been built on can't be used for other things. Green space still has options.
- You have an opportunity to show leadership and leave a lasting legacy for all of Nanaimo. Rarely does an opportunity like this present itself.
- There is a lot of other less agriculturally viable land that can be developed for housing instead.
- We need to stop enticing folks to move here in droves. We need limits to growth on VI and particularly Nanaimo.
- Food security will be increasingly vital with time.
- While affordable housing is needed, to try to cram a build of any economical size into a 1 acre footprint will surely be impossible, especially considering there will need to be more parking/delivery access allowed than shown on the draft layouts.
- Thanks for the opportunity to provide input and thanks for acting on the word of the people.
- We need space to grow local and healthy food and open space for our kids and birds.
- Please consider a ground water alternative for agricultural use during periods of city water restriction. Also, please allow farming initiatives in currently unused areas to proceed rapidly, as vacant land invites trouble in the interim.
- Please keep the buffer on the wetlands at large as possible to maintain the wetlands functions
- No desire for additional homes/living accommodations on this property. Please continue to use this land as a green space for natural growth and education.
- Keep as much green space open for growing food for our community and stop getting rid of parks as well. Not every space needs to be gobbled up by apartments.
- One concern I have is that the site may be attractive to the unhoused population but I am

sure that the neighbourhood would report it to the city it that should occur.

- We need self sufficiency in case of an emergency. This plot of land could feed people in a dire circumstance--down the road...
- Keep this 5 acre plot for growing food...PLEASE!!!
- While affordable housing is important and I agree we desperately need more, these areas need to be protected first and foremost. We should be looking at tearing down pre-existing buildings that are unused and putting affordable housing there.
- Leave five acres as five acres.
- Please listen to the people who live here. We are losing green spaces to developments that are couched in sacrificial language designed to look like it's beneficial (to help provide housing). Please help us to protect farmlands, create park spaces we can use. Keep space as a 'free space' so that we can educate the future generations on how important it is to preserve our spaces.
- The old farm building would be a great venue for all sorts of activities and functions if re-stored.
- Just leave it alone. Why is the City spending money on this? And btw, I'm all for bike lanes and sidewalks, but the newest ones seem unnecessarily wide and overbuilt. Too much concrete and asphalt. No where for the rain to flow into the ground. If there hundreds of people flowing over them, they'd be the right size, but there isn't, probably never will be.
- It's truly reprehensible that the city would consider altering this space, considering everything that it not only gives back to our local community but the opportunities that it offers to our children and families with disabilities.
- I thought that this consultation with the public was very well done, and I appreciated the options for both in-person and on-line participation. The information was easy to understand.
- My knowledge of the plots is purely based on the maps provided and I live in Ladysmith.
- To add housing here with no or little public transportation makes no sense. Most folk in this income bracket would not own a vehicle and access to resources and employment is then problematic.
- Yes we do need more low income//low cost housing but not on farmland and not so far away from services with little or no transpo. Infill in the city for low income folk is what our city requires.
- Do not develop this land. Leave it as a farm!!!
- Save the farm!!
- If we want to use land that enhances life in our city keep as much farmland, forest as we can. Golf courses on the other hand could be used to build an enormous of housing AND provide garden areas.
- Besides being a source for food for low income people, it is also an education centre and much more. This land has immense heritage value and should be designated as such. A covenant should be put on the land to keep it intact in perpetuity.
- What about repurposing land that is not agricultural to build housing in areas that are already designated for density, e.g. the fields around the old Dufferin Elementary School?
- Food production is so important in these times.
- no
- We need to honour the legacy of past food security advocate and farmer Craig Evans and do what he would have wanted which is option carrot. Also, having fled Vancouver, I can tell you firsthand, that putting a bunch of "affordable housing" in and densifying everything doesn't exactly amount to a healthy or affordable community. Having food is a major need and a local

farm right in the neighbourhood to teach, feed and nourish is paramount to continued health and sustainability of this low income area. Our survival depends on food and access to it and removing the full space with which to engage in farming is a real threat to our future in a world full of converging catastrophes like climate change and economic upheaval.

- I strongly encourage retaining all the farmland. Once it is built on it is gone forever.
- I feel that there are options to include housing on this site, as was discussed prior to the city purchase of the land. The original vision for the property housing options (from Growing Opportunities, including Craig Evans and myself, Jen Cody) was to support a limited footprint housing confined to the current house footprint and adjacent rock outcrops on the property. The housing would be for farmers and people with challenges and disabilities that were participating in farm activities onsite. The one acre housing options are not limited to non agricultural land and do not define who would own or benefit from the one acre development. On that basis I was not able to support that option.
- The MABRRI research is worth reviewing, as that community process focussed on immediate neighbours to the property and was conducted by a neutral third party to the farm.
- In creating the plan for the remaining areas of the farm, it is worth noting that there are more than 2 heritage fruit/nut trees on the property. As with the East Wellington farm, it would be worthwhile to have an agricultural assessment of the property to establish the best use of the property for food production, outside of the protected wetlands area.
- Lastly, there are other municipalities that have created farm parks. The CRD Foodlands program has many resources that support city owned property being made available for farming. <https://www.crd.bc.ca/project/food-agriculture>
- The CRD has also identified farmland as a priority for addressing food security in the region. They are supporting creating incubator farms on city property to support the opportunity for farming to continue with new farmers learning their trade by making land accessible for that purpose. The Five Acres Farm has a similar vision, creating a place where people can learn about and participate in farming, understand that farming is possible within or close to an urban area, and create opportunities for collective farming. While farming is an adjacent activity to gardening, the skills of farming are distinct from gardening. To promote a community food system, farming is essential. Nanaimo has many community gardens, this property has the potential to be a community FARM.
- Please keep Five Acre Farm as it is.
- I actively grow on my city lot, food for our family. I know how long it takes to build healthy soil and mature fruit and nut trees. Don't throw this land away to developers.
- Affordable housing could be made possible by buying out/updating the abandoned buildings in Nanaimo instead of just building new properties.
- There is plenty of non arable land that can be made variable for housing. You can't make more farmland, and you can't eat pavement.
- Use areas that are not in cultivation or protected wetlands for housing.
- Leave it as is
- How dare you even consider developing an inch of this space?
- Option 5 is my preferred plan; however, option 2 would be second best.
- While understanding that there is a need for more housing, attention should be focused on urban areas/lots that aren't being utilized and that have the potential to offer the space needed for more housing before continuously looking at the more rural areas and destroying what is truly important to the people and animals that have been living and enjoying the island life Nanaimo has offered.

- Why not develop a golf course, or empty school into housing?
- I would like to comment on so called "affordability" of the houses being build. Who can afford to buy those? The prices are ridiculously high. Funny that official, Co called living wage for Nanaimo is \$20.49 (who made those calculations, I'm wondering) before tax. I make more than that and hold one full time job and part time on weekends and still can't afford to buy this "affordable" house. I'm 39. Are they being build for seniors who have saved money for 50 years or those making money in Vancouver and coming to Nanaimo for retirement? Those houses are not being build for those making "living wages" in Nanaimo. That's sad.
- I sure do have comments! I saw this survey a week or two ago, that was shared by someone who was concerned. When I saw the options listed only as fruits and vegetables I thought the survey was only to do with operations at the farm and didn't read any further. I just received another link to this survey with a comment that I should read it, so decided I better have a look. When I opened the options I was shocked to learn that the options consisted mostly of housing on the property. I was gobsmacked. Unless I missed something when I clicked on the survey link, I had NO clue that any of the options included housing. I feel mislead. And, labeling the options with names of fruits and vegetables feels like kindergarten. I feel like this was intentionally misleading. Terrible, terrible, survey!!!!!!!!!!!!
- This farm is part of Nanaimo's history and provides much needed open space for the city.
- This provides a valuable learning experience for children and adults alike.
- Why are you building more parks? There is not enough staff to look after the parks we already have!
- There are many neglected properties in Nanaimo presumably being held by developers for speculative profits. Tax incentives could encourage the release of the sites for better use.
- It's the proper thing to save this community farm.
- Yes. Use the abandoned school lots for building low income housing. Stop clear cutting and start using what's already available.
- Nanaimo is being over developed! STOP IT!
- second choice would be "raspberry", to keep housing development's inevitable disruption further from the farmland boundaries
- This area is already having infrastructure issues due to rapid growth. Why not pause on home building to allow roads, intersection design, and flow design to catch up?
- Although we need more low income housing surely it could be built in other locations that are more central to services.
- Too often, decisions to tear down and destroy are made concerning our shared history. The 5 acre properties are a unique and integral part of Nanaimo's past and the last remaining example should be saved.
- Why has the city pursued this route of affordable housing? It seems counter intuitive, a waste of time and pits two community groups against each other. A better use would be an integrative multi use building that serves more than just a few families. Food Share needs a new larger building that can serve to educate large groups like schools with good sized kitchens and meeting rooms. The building could be one story with green tech and wouldn't obstruct views to the mountain. Preferably parking would be limited or underground.
- Gosh, there is so much we could do. Let's think outside of the limited box we've been given in these scenarios.
- It is a heritage five acres and should be left as it is for the sake of education, produce and wild bird and animal refuge. There is very little left where birds can live without being pushed out by construction.

- Seems like throwing out the baby with the bathwater to be tossing a cultural and biophysical legacy. Not a suitable site for what would be an under-developed housing complex – based on the options under consideration
- Your council's policies are wrecking our City with too much development!
- Why no develop in the already residential areas of nanaimo? There are many derelict buildings and empty lots that could be used for "affordable housing ". We need more food security in this city and by removing these areas its going to cause further issues to people who rely on food banks and other options
- I would love for there to be more community programs and education pieces as the farm continues on.
- This farm is an important historical site in our neighborhood, and should be treated as such! The last farm of its kind, providing affordable, healthy food to the Nanaimo and greater area residents. The educational
- and job skills programs, volunteer and community building opportunities are assets that cannot be replaced. Please Do not destroy this little gem we have in our community! Local food matters!!!
- There is no need to build housing on agricultural land. There are plenty of other places where this can happen.
- LEAVE IT ALONE
- Research the real income numbers in this city and find out how many people area paying more than 30% of their income for rent! Rents based on this 30% of income is what is really needed in this city.
- From my personal perspective, the visual layout was poorly done, with a real challenge of getting the individual options, icons, and lettering very close to being unreadable. My sense of this visual is it was done by someone who managed to cram as much information, onto their screens, without considering what was being presented to the end viewer. Considering the potential result of miss leading or misunderstood information being accepted as the final approval. I wonder if some other way of presenting the individual options.
- Other comments: In Nanaimo, we spend a lot of time and correctness, expressing our appreciation to our Indigenous hosts, but I did not get a sense of first nations' involvement, expressions or opinions nor anything that was considered more than a token acknowledgement. What does that say about sensitivity or real respect.
- Keep our green spaces green please.
- Please don't build housing on it and risk the green space and the wetlands.
- The goal of the ruling class is to make housing such a crisis that we are willing to sacrifice our green spaces, our parks, our natural environment, and every other place that belongs to the collective from which they can't extract money.
- I'd like to see more farming opportunities where out of work folks could be employed to grow crops and help allow people to ear locally produced food.
- It is very valuable to teach people about farming/growing their own food to share. I am afraid that if 1 acre was taken for development, the city would then choose to eliminate another acre and so on for future development.
- When the City of Nanaimo bought this land in 2019, I thought it was to conserve it as farming and natural space. How many times must we be asked? Why is this even an option? If Nanaimo Food Share does not want to utilize all of the land for growing food, then it should be rewilded – plant a mini-forest for biodiversity and wild food systems.
- My second choice would be "Raspberry" as I do think that affordable housing is critical in

Nanaimo and this option would balance this need for the corresponding need for community farm/local food production. In general, I think that these two land uses should be prioritized over non-natural and low ecological value park land.

- Was this survey meant to be deliberately obtuse? I just voted for "Carrot". Weird.
- This City has already gone to shit....keep it green and lovely for ourselves and for other to come to enjoy.
- This is a no brainer people
- Please no development.
- Keep this as a community gathering space with a focus on farming and education
- I think farming is an important part of Canadians heritage. I also think it is better for the environment and great opportunity for everyone to learn about the environment. This area could be a great spot to bring the community close in the outdoors. There could be a lot of opportunities for different programs.
- Please keep 5 acre farm intact
- Build housing in the old sears building, other wasted space and abandoned buildings... build it up. No one will care about that, but please leave areas that are not built on alone. The wildlife relies on it. This area should be protected as farming and learning space.
- I support building houses along Nicol St, Victoria St and Haliburton, which is my neighborhood. But I have seen too many farms lost in Harewood in the last 15 years. Please keep this one intact.
- I found out about this survey two days before it ends - your messaging missed this household almost entirely. And I am an IT professional who works in a public library. I have resources. Please consider upping your communication with affected neighborhoods? A single flyer is manageable for the local swap meet - surely the city and regional district can do as much.
- Housing is important yet can be built in a variety of places; food can only be grown in specific places and 5 Acre Farm is already established and a proven success not only for food production but a place for learning and community gathering.
- There are deserted building in the city downtown that should be torn down and the land revitalized as housing. Also most people needing affordable housing also need services with in walking or easy commuting distance. Most of the service are located downtown.
- Not at this time.
- There were a lot of big parcels of property in that area that have been turned into subdivisions and there are still more to come. Leave this property as farmland.
- With the topic of the current housing crises in mind, creating more housing is not even close to the most beneficial solution. The only reason that I see for the local government to employ this idea is because it's the quickest, easiest, and cheapest. What we need is not necessarily more housing, but to make the housing already here more affordable. People all over the country, and especially in BC have to work themselves to death just to afford to survive. And not only that, but there are also issues like landlords and other owners who own multiple properties, hoard the land they own and demand much more money for it than necessary or that reflects the actual value. This makes it incredibly difficult for people to afford comfortable housing and also contributes to the rising difficulty (or ever growing impossibility) of younger generations ever actually owning their own land. Forcing people to continue to rely on greedy landlords which remain the only option most of the time.
- These stated issues are what the government and the city of Nanaimo need to focus on. It's not cheap, it's not quick and easy and to tackle them we have to go after the corporate greed that controls much of our government and funds many of these issues from the start. The last

thing we need is the city developing over our rapidly declining local ecosystem and nature that sustains much of our humanity just because it's easy. It's not only a short-sighted "solution." Its plain foolish.

- Due to the incredible rate of climate change please preserve this land.
- Find other land like the Jolly Miner pub that is an eye soar and build houses on that site.
- On another note, from what I see the affordable housing that is referred to, most of the people who need it won't be able to afford it.
- There is only this one opportunity to preserve this rare piece of land and enhance the education, environmental and the betterment of this and future generations. Please don't let this precious treasure.
- The farm should be left as a working farm and produce food for the community
- Everyone keeps talking about food security and the first opportunity to support local growers gets wasted
- Affordable housing is certainly needed, but I don't think that this site should be compromised. The site serves a valuable purpose as is and should be supported in its mission.
- Affordable housing will not be solved 8 units at a time. Nanaimo needs to be developed in the chase River area
- I have owned my property at 1003 Park Ave since 1953. We need recreation.
- More recreation.
- The historical significance of this land cannot be ignored. We are in desperate need of urban farm space & if we change the current use to housing we will never get it back.
- I think the lease usage needs to be with Growing Opportunities as they have proven that they continue to produce food & educate students in the process.
- It is sad to see any farm land taken away. Relying on commercial farms, plus transportation to get the produce to the island, is not effective for reducing the carbon footprint for Vancouver Island. I have heard there is approximately 2 days of supplies available to the population on the island, so if there is a natural disaster and products can't be, or a very limited amount of product, is shipped to the island, there can be some very serious consequences for humanity.
- I really liked Mr. Jack Anderson's ideas of eventually putting residences on site for FARMERS, and in such a way that the homes are carbon negative. HOWEVER - to just designate an acre or more for "affordable housing" is just way too vague to lose the green space now. Until there is a plan that could put a very few houses on site that would benefit ALL of Nanaimo by increasing food security (Which would be accomplished via Mr. Anderson's idea of housing new farmers who could manage the food gardens, garden markets, orchards). Then I DO not support cutting out an acre or more for housing. In addition - this green space in the middle of the city is part of ensuring a space for pollinators, migratory birds, other creatures. Every school child is taught now how imperative bio-diversity protection has become - this is an actual action that supports protection of bio-diversity here in the city. Final point - the city of Vancouver recently did a huge review of the city owned golf courses to decide if they should carve out space for housing. They voted on this and there was 100% agreement that protecting the existing green space was more important. In some of the discussion the discussion also touched on the better option would be to further modify the zoning to allow higher density building instead of single family homes, and when that was part of the equation then the existing green space would be even more critical. But again - if green space is paved over - for housing or any other reason - it is gone forever. If some space was ever to be used for housing in future it can be - but only if there is a very very good plan on the table, that maintains all the benefit of the existing green space 5 Acres provides.

- Need to seriously consider recreation facilities. I have property at 1003 Park Ave and a son at 1009 moved to 940 Park Ave in 1940 with my parents who had an egg production farm. I am one of the pioneers of the FIVE ACRES. Need recreation facilities.
- While affordable housing is a good thing it isn't as if this property is the tipping point or will make all the difference.
- Double existing efforts on community garden/food security and increase density with small scale vertical (10 ft ~) farming.
- This area has already been in use for agricultural and educational purposes, two wonderful things to promote and enhance for all of us in Nanaimo. It's precious. Also there are plenty of other locations in town on which to build more affordable housing without developing an area that should be protected for its wetland and spoiling an already existing piece of land being used for good purposes.
- I don't believe it is appropriate to view this land as an opportunity to help solve our very real housing crisis. I don't find it credible that we can have both agrarian land preservation and housing development together here at this site. Engaged community members are aware of our housing crisis issues and committed to meeting this challenge, but any proposed development of this property under the guise of providing affordable housing puts the goals of Reimagine Nanaimo unnecessarily at odds with each other. The best use of this land is as a local food source and food production education area, and total undisturbed preservation of wetland. Let us continue to use this land as it has been historically. There are other appropriate opportunities to provide affordable housing.
- I HAVE LIVED IN FIVE ACRES SINCE 1941
- We are living in a time of dramatic and accelerating change, (climate change, extreme weather, heat domes, atmospheric rivers, housing crisis all with potential disruptions to supply of basic goods, etc.). Are we doing enough to prepare our future communities to address these challenges? I believe not and I see this property as a key opportunity to address the challenges of educating our communities into sustainability and resilience options to give them hope for addressing the accelerating challenges of the future. Thanks to the foresight and countless hours of hands in the soil from such key community leaders as Craig Evans and Jen Cody, the land already offers insight into food sovereignty challenges. This could be expanded on land otherwise targeted for a few more affordable housing units. But that's only the beginning as we can showcase sustainable water systems with rainwater collection systems or the ability to be resilient to grid collapses with integrated renewable energy systems. We can showcase how to appropriately handle our biological waste with alternate septic handling that reuses the nutrients otherwise flushed away through our centralized septic system soon to be drastically overworked with mass density increases as single family homes become 4-plexes and host multiple families.
- This site with its 5-acre legacy is a prime location to create a educational center to focus exclusively on practices of sustainability and resilience connected across the community with multiple partnerships:
 - School Board providing hands on educational opportunities for students of all ages, possibly providing a place for incorporating permaculture design certificates into the curriculums
 - VIU offering sustainable agricultural research and adult education programs
 - City Parks and Rec programs offering courses in renewable energy, rainwater harvesting for homeowners or insight into food harvesting, processing and preservation
 - Snuneymuxw First Nation elders – how to identify and spiritually harvest medicinal plants within the sensitive riparian lands that pass through the property.

- Growing Opportunities and Food Share groups – providing care and management to the growing lands and ensuring the products of the harvest reach our most vulnerable populations.
- Many others as interested – inclusivity being crucial to broad support and protection
- There are opportunities to repurpose the old residence on site as an education facility but will require assurances of public safety and usability. An outdoor amphitheater on the north hillside where soil fertility is low might be one of the improvements of value where outdoor education can be offered and art and culture celebrated at key times of harvest ceremony.
- In anticipation of the expected critics of this vision, I share two issues:
- But what about our housing crisis? To this I note that there is a two acre parcel with limited agricultural value that adjoins the land to the west off Bruce Avenue where the owner is receptive to supporting a 5 acre farm. Allow this to be developed as a co-operatively owned Farm Hamlet where a group of young farmers and share in the oversight and operations of a sustainable school while serving as stewards of the 5 acre site. (I can share more on Farm Hamlets if required)
- But who's going to pay for this School of Sustainability and Resilience?
- I personally don't know a better cause to invest our communities' taxes as giving hope to future generations is a crucial value in all our hearts. That said, a massive crowd funding initiative would certainly gain some traction in our communities and over the extent of the region. But, at the end of the day, I think you will find that this is the type of cause that generates the interest of our most wealthy philanthropists as those who have had the good fortune to make windfalls within the financial markets will be aging and still hold that same love and compassion in their hearts to want to support the dire needs of our future generations. I suspect, this will inevitably prove the prime funding for such a vision.
- So in summary I say, there is 22,560.7 acres in the City of Nanaimo and while not all can be used for housing, there is thousands of acres available to increase our affordable housing stock but there are few key five acre sites that can provide education and inspiration for generations to come.
- One last thought to share it that if this school can feature sustainable agriculture then let it be named after our dear departed leader Craig Evans.
- Please keep this property as urban farmland.
- Continue the good work being done on the 5 Acre Farm
- The options are quite boring, traditional, socialist and not even close to the potential that this property should and could easily be.
- There is no balance of social, economic and political impact.
- There is nothing newsworthy, innovative, engaging or attention-getting in these 5 proposals.
- We continue to make tiny, linear incremental changes when we are capable of making exponential impact with public funds and resources. I believe our community has the choice to shape and lead as an impact community to imagine and build the future we desire for the next generation; or we will age out of our youthfulness. We simply need to play more.
- What I envision for the space is an inner-urban prototype village that is focused on longevity and wellness.
- The primary pillar is min 50% food security for residents and visitors.
- Design would be a global competition with designs being open-sourced (eventually with a Nanaimo brand and team of consultants that can assist with implementation in global destinations) and the winning design being implemented.
- Included would be these features:
- startup incubator for farmers and agtech entrepreneurs,

- medium term stay accommodation
- visitor accommodation,
- maker space,
- multi-room event centre
- Use the entire plot for affordable housing leaving enough land to grow AH down the road
- Please, please leave it for gardening/farming for my grandchildren to appreciate. I already do.
- This farm has been here since the beginnings of our city. It's just as important to our history as places such as the Bastion, or our museum. It may even be more important, as it was a staple of life to the first coal miners here in Nanaimo.
- I was a farm worker at five acre farm and I want to see the farm continue on.
- Please find unused buildings, fix them up, and use them for housing.
- Affordable housing is a huge concern. This just isn't the place for it. There are many other undeveloped or underdeveloped or abandoned or dilapidated properties in Nanaimo that would make GREAT affordable housing sites.
- I would like to see more mixed use redevelopment encouraged in this area.
- Come on
- Just like cities should provide areas for people to recreate in parks, the City of Nanaimo should also provide people a place where they can go and learn about food and food production.
- Agricultural land is too precious to develop.