

DATE OF MEETING June 12, 2023

AUTHORED BY CHRIS SHOLBERG, COMMUNITY/HERITAGE PLANNER

**SUBJECT NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION ENGAGEMENT EVENT  
SUMMARY AND PRIORITY ACTION SELECTION**

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To provide a summary of the neighbourhood association priority actions identified at the Neighbourhood Association Engagement Event held on 2023-APR-26, and seek direction with respect to considering these actions to be added as an attachment to the draft Integrated Action Plan (IAP).

### **Recommendation**

That the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend that Council endorse the priority actions identified by the neighbourhood associations to be added as an attachment to the draft Integrated Action Plan as outlined in Attachment A of the 2023-JUN-12 Staff report titled “Neighbourhood Association Engagement Event Summary and Priority Action Selection”.

## **BACKGROUND**

City Plan encourages engagement with neighbourhood associations, and specifically Council hosting an annual engagement opportunity to hear the collective priorities of neighbourhoods. Adopted by Council on 2022-APR-25, the City’s Neighbourhood Associations Supports Policy also notes that Council will host an annual engagement opportunity with recognized neighbourhood associations.

At its regular meeting held on 2023-APR-03, Council directed Staff to proceed with organizing an engagement event for 2023-APR-26, from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Beban Park Social Centre. The event was coordinated by Staff and all 14 recognized neighbourhood associations sent representatives to attend and provide priority action input on behalf of their respective associations.

## **DISCUSSION**

Based on the discussion which occurred at the event, each neighbourhood association identified up to three top priorities as well as associated key actions for addressing these priorities. For Council’s reference, these priority actions have been summarized in *Attachment A: 2023 Neighbourhood Association Priority Actions*. For many of the proposed Neighbourhood Association actions, there is already a related action in the library of the Integrated Action Plan, which is shown in column two of the table in Attachment A. It is recommended that the proposed Neighbourhood Association actions in Attachment A be added as an attachment to the draft Integrated Action Plan. Staff will work to review and address the actions identified by the neighbourhood associations within four years, to consider inclusion into the City’s capital plans,

budgets and department workplans. Council may also wish to consider elevating specific Neighbourhood Association actions into the Priority Action list.

A summary of the Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) feedback from all of the spring GPC – IAP sessions will be presented as a revised Integrated Action Plan (with an updated Priority Actions list) at a June 2023 GPC meeting.

### IAP Review Schedule

The following schedule is proposed for the review of the draft IAP and Priority Actions.

GPC Date	Proposed Topic Area – Draft Priority Actions
2023-MAY-29	Continuation of City Structure - Neighbourhood Section. To consider Neighbourhood Association Priorities identified at the 2023-APR-26 meeting with Neighbourhood Associations.
TBD June 2023 GPC	Revised ' <i>Integrated Action Plan</i> ' which will include the 'Priority Actions' presented to GPC for consideration of endorsement.

### OPTIONS

1. That the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend that Council endorse the priority actions identified by the neighbourhood associations to be added as an attachment to the draft Integrated Action Plan as outlined in Attachment A of the 2023-MAY-29 Staff report titled "Neighbourhood Association Engagement Event Summary and Priority Action Selection".
  - The advantages of this option: Priority actions identified by neighbourhood associations will be added as an attachment to the Integrated Action Plan. Staff will work to review and address the actions identified by the neighbourhood associations within four years, to consider inclusion into the City's capital plans, budgets and department workplans.
  - The disadvantages of this option: Staff review will be required to review and address the actions.
  - Financial Implications: There is a range of financial implications associated with the proposed actions, with some being addressed through existing operational and program budgets, and others requiring capital investment.
  
2. That the Governance and Priorities Committee provide alternate direction.

### **SUMMARY POINTS**

- City Plan encourages engagement with neighbourhood associations, and specifically Council hosting an annual engagement opportunity to hear the collective priorities of neighbourhoods.
- At its regular meeting held on 2023-APR-03, Council directed Staff to proceed with organizing an engagement event for 2023-APR-26 and all 14 recognized neighbourhoods sent representatives to attend.
- Based on the discussion which occurred at the event, each neighbourhood association was able to identify up to three top priority actions for inclusion into the City's draft Integrated Action Plan.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

ATTACHMENT A: 2023 Neighbourhood Association Priority Actions

ATTACHMENT B: Links to Draft IAP and Draft Priority Actions List |

#### **Submitted by:**

Lisa Brinkman  
Manager, Community Planning |

#### **Concurrence by:**

Lisa Bhopalsingh  
Director, Community Development

Bill Corsan  
Director, Corporate & Business Development

Bill Sims  
General Manager, Engineering & Public Works

Richard Harding  
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture

Dale Lindsay  
General Manager, Development Services /  
Deputy CAO |

## ATTACHMENT A

### 2023 NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION PRIORITY LIST

The tables below represent the priorities identified by each Neighbourhood Association at the 2023-APR-26 Neighbourhood Association Engagement Event. The tables contain the proposed action, related draft Integrated Action Plan (IAP) actions, and City Plan policy that supports the proposed action. Staff will review and address the actions identified by the neighbourhood associations within 4 years to consider inclusion into the City's capital plans, budgets and department workplans.

Proposed Priority Actions	Related Draft IAP Actions (actions already in library of IAP)	City Plan Policy to Support the Action
<b>NORTH SLOPE DISTRICT</b>		
<b>Dover Community Association</b>		
1. For the PRC Department to work with the Dover Community Association to identify opportunities for a new neighbourhood park in the southwest corner of the Dover Planning Area.	C4.9.1.   Ongoing  “Maintain a Land Acquisition Strategy to identify desirable locations for future parks, trails and nature areas, recreation, culture and heritage sites.	C4.9.2., C4.9.3., C4.9.6.
2. For Development Services to meet with the Dover Community Association to discuss concerns regarding the Land Use Designations identified in <i>City Plan: Nanaimo ReImagined</i> as well as applicable Design Guidelines that apply to the Dover Planning Area.	D4.1   Ongoing  “Implement the Neighbourhood Associations Supports Policy . . .”	Schedule 2 – Future Land Use Designations, DPA 8  Form & Character
3. Improve communications with the Dover Community Association on changes proposed within the Dover Planning Area.	D4.1   Ongoing  “Implement the Neighbourhood Associations Supports Policy . . .”	E1.2.1. thru E.1.2.7.
<b>Stephenson Point Community Association</b>		
1. For the Transportation Department to review road markings as part of regular maintenance and make adjustments to optimize road space to support active mobility along Hammond Bay Road between Stephenson Point Road and Oakridge Drive. Objective is to create a continuous shoulder without additional road construction.	C2.2.1.   Ongoing   “Continue to fund walking, rolling and cycling facilities to improve quality, safety, and accessibility.”	C1.1.10., C2.2.1., C2.2.2., C2.2.6, D5.5.
2. Complete works on Stephenson Point Road between Cottle Creek and Wave Crescent (as detailed in a February 20, 2023 email from the Stephenson Point Community Association).	C2.2.1.   Ongoing   “Continue to fund walking, rolling and cycling facilities to improve quality, safety, and accessibility.”	C1.1.10, C2.2.1., C.2.2.2., C2.2.6., D5.5.
3. For Council to support and advocate for the installation of a cellphone tower that remedies service deficiencies in the Stephenson Point / Hammond Bay / Lost Lake Area.	No related action.	C5.1.

Proposed Priority Actions	Related Draft IAP Actions (actions already in library of IAP)	City Plan Policy To Support the Action
<b>NORTH TOWN DISTRICT</b>		
<b>Lost Lake Neighbourhood Association</b>		
1. Complete the next phase of traffic calming along Lost Lake Road.	No related action.	C2.4.3.
2. Reallocate space along Lost Lake Road to support active mobility (e.g. pedestrians, mobility device users, and cyclists).	C2.2.1.   Ongoing   “Continue to fund walking, rolling and cycling facilities to improve quality, safety, and accessibility.”	C1.1.10., C2.2.1., C2.2.2., C2.2.6., D5.5.
<b>Wellington Community Association/Wellington Action Committee</b>		
1. Implement traffic calming on both Labieux Road and Victoria Avenue.	<p>C2.4.4.   Immediate   “Target \$365,000 over the next 5 years to enhance safety through traffic calming.”</p> <p>C2.4.5.   Immediate   “Create a Vision Zero Toolkit to support strategic monitoring, assessing, and mitigation of collision characteristics across the City.”</p> <p>C2.4.6.   Immediate   Utilizing emerging technology, undertake a pilot project to test the capabilities of the system to predict collision patterns at intersections to enable staff to proactively make changes at high-risk intersections that have yet to generate high collision rates.</p> <p>C2.4.7.   Immediate   Develop a citywide speed management strategy.</p> <p>C2.4.8.   Immediate   Develop a Vision Zero business case to identify future road improvement projects.</p>	C1.1.10, C2.2.1, C2.2.2., C2.2.6., C2.4.1 – C2.4.5., D5.5
2. Work with the Wellington Community Association to identify opportunities to connect existing greenspaces in the Diver Lake Planning Area.	C4.9.1.   Ongoing   “Maintain a Land Acquisition Strategy to identify desirable locations for future parks, trails and nature areas, recreation, culture, and heritage sites.	C4.9.3., C4.9.12., C4.9.17.
3. Work with the Wellington Community Association to identify opportunities to address concerns around theft and damage in the Diver Lake Planning Area, notably Diver Lake Park.	C3.1.3.   Ongoing   “Continue offering Community Policing programs including Speed Watch, Block Watch, Crime Watch, 529 Garage Bike Registrations, Safety Education and Awareness Campaigns, Community Development	C3.1.1., C3.1.5., C3.1.8.

	<p>Initiatives, Community Events, and Neighbourhood Safety Audits.</p> <p>D4.3   Ongoing   “Work with neighbourhoods to increase support for community crime prevention programs and neighbourhood safety initiatives (e.g. Community Policing Program)”.</p>	
<b>Proposed Priority Actions</b>	<b>Related Draft IAP Actions (actions already in library of IAP)</b>	<b>City Plan Policy To Support the Action</b>
<b>DEPARTURE BAY MID-TOWN DISTRICT</b>		
<b>Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association</b>		
1. Increase the Neighbourhood Association Grant Program individual grant totals beyond \$1000.00 per association.	D4.1   Ongoing   “Implement the Neighbourhood Associations Supports Policy . . .”	E1.2.7.
2. Complete a study exploring the feasibility of either remodelling the Kin Hut or constructing a new indoor community gathering space.	Action D4.112   Immediate   “Activity Centre – Work with Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture, community members, and the private sector to rebuild the Activity Centre to create a space capable of supporting a diverse array of activities, including simultaneous multiple uses. The renovation should include a games/meeting room.”	D6.4.
3. Work with the Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association to identify priority locations for pedestrian safety improvements within the Departure Bay Planning Area.	C2.2.1   Ongoing   “Continue to fund walking, rolling and cycling facilities to improve quality, safety, and accessibility.”	C2.4.
<b>Brechin Hill Community Association</b>		
1. Replace the broken equipment at Barney Moriez Park.	<p>C4.9.7.   Ongoing   “Regularly assess and update operational, maintenance, and life cycle costs in preserving the value of park investments.”</p> <p>C4.9.10.   Ongoing   “Review levels of service and maintenance for parkland and park amenities to ensure expectations are being met.”</p> <p>D4.113   “Barney Moriez Park – The City will work with the Brechin Hill Community Association and the local community to monitor the use of Barney Moriez Park and</p>	C4.3.11., C4.9.15.

	pursue upgrades to its equipment, landscaping, and drainage where appropriate.”	
2. Add lights to the existing crosswalks at the intersections of Larch Street/Stewart Avenue and Ocean Terrace/Brechin Road.	C2.2.1   Ongoing   “Continue to fund walking, rolling and cycling facilities to improve quality, safety, and accessibility.”	C2.2.11.
3. Work with the Brechin Hill Community Association to identify priority locations for pedestrian road safety improvements within the Newcastle Planning Area.	C2.2.1   Ongoing   “Continue to fund walking, rolling and cycling facilities to improve quality, safety, and accessibility.”	C2.4.
<b>Proposed Priority Actions</b>	<b>Related Draft IAP Actions (actions already in library of IAP)</b>	<b>City Plan Policy To Support the Action</b>
<b>Newcastle Community Association</b>		
1. Complete a traffic calming study on Stewart Avenue.	C2.5.13   Stewart Avenue Complete Street Corridor – North of Cypress – Consistent with the proposed vision within the Newcastle + Brechin Neighbourhood Plan, study options for reallocating space within the existing Stewart Avenue cross-section to create AAA cycling facilities and shorten crosswalks along the corridor.  C2.5.14   Stewart Avenue Complete Street – Terminal to Cypress   Redistribution of space along Stewart Avenue demonstrates that numbered Highways can be integrated into an urban environment while still supporting all mobility needs.	C2.4.3.
2. Add push buttons/flasher to existing crosswalks on Stewart Avenue at Dawes Street, Rosehill Street and Townsite Road.	C2.2.1   Ongoing   “Continue to fund walking, rolling and cycling facilities to improve quality, safety, and accessibility.”  C2.5.14   Stewart Avenue Complete Street – Terminal to Cypress   Redistribution of space along Stewart Avenue demonstrates that numbered Highways can be integrated into an urban environment while still supporting all mobility needs.	C2.2.11.
3. Work with the Newcastle Community Neighbourhood Association on implementing a Vacancy/Property Maintenance Bylaw to hold property owners accountable for managing their vacant properties.	No related action.	No related action.

Proposed Priority Actions	Related Draft IAP Actions (actions already in library of IAP)	City Plan Policy To Support the Action
<b>Bradley Street Neighbourhood Association</b>		
1. Add needle drop boxes near alley between Rosehill Street and Townsite Road, next to winter weather shelter at 595 Townsite Road.	D4.3.   Ongoing   “Work with neighbourhoods to increase support for community crime prevention programs and neighbourhood safety initiatives (e.g. Community Policing Program).”	C3.1.10
2. Complete a traffic calming study for the Townsite Planning Area.	<p>C2.4.4.   Immediate   “Target \$365,000 over the next 5 years to enhance safety through traffic calming.”</p> <p>C2.4.5.   Immediate   “Create a Vision Zero Toolkit to support strategic monitoring, assessing, and mitigation of collision characteristics across the City.”</p> <p>C2.4.6.   Immediate   Utilizing emerging technology, undertake a pilot project to test the capabilities of the system to predict collision patterns at intersections to enable staff to proactively make changes at high-risk intersections that have yet to generate high collision rates.</p> <p>C2.4.7.   Immediate   Develop a citywide speed management strategy.</p> <p>C2.4.8.   Immediate   Develop a Vision Zero business case to identify future road improvement projects.</p>	C2.4.1. – C2.4.5
3. Work to move hydro polls off sidewalks.	<p>C2.2.1   Ongoing   “Continue to fund walking, rolling and cycling facilities to improve quality, safety, and accessibility.”</p> <p>D4.6.   Ongoing   “The City will continue to work with BC Hydro and developers to evaluate where candidates for power line burial may exist under BC Hydro’s power line burial program and how these projects can be facilitated in cooperation with the City and/or development proposals.</p>	C2.2.10.



Proposed Priority Actions	Related Draft IAP Actions (actions already in library of IAP)	City Plan Policy To Support the Action
<b>DOWNTOWN UNIVERSITY DISTRICT</b>		
<b>Protection Island Neighbourhood Association</b>		
1. Work with Protection Island Neighbourhood Association to develop road surface improvements for gravel roads on Protection Island to improve dust suppression.	No related action.	C2.2.13
2. Work with Protection Island Neighbourhood Association to understand and address safety concerns of Protection Islanders walking from marina to their downtown destination and back again.	C3.1.3.   Ongoing   “Continue offering Community Policing programs including Speed Watch, Block Watch, Crime Watch, 529 Garage Bike Registrations, Safety Education and Awareness Campaigns, Community Development Initiatives, Community Events, and Neighbourhood Safety Audits.  D4.3.   Ongoing   “Work with neighbourhoods to increase support for community crime prevention programs and neighbourhood safety initiatives (e.g. Community Policing Program).”	C3.1.1., C3.1.5., C3.1.8.
3. Advocate to the Regional District of Nanaimo to explore the viability of adding a public transit access to Protection Island.	No related action.	C2.2.26.
<b>Nanaimo Old City Association</b>		
1. That the City communicate with developers and builders that reaching the carbon reduction targets for 2030 (City Plan) is a priority for all new developments in the Old City Neighbourhood. More specifically, promote environmentally sustainable design for new and existing buildings, by prioritizing actions C1.1.3, C1.1.21 and C1.1.40 in the Integrated Action Plan, and adopt Development Permit Area Guidelines that promote sustainable building practices, complete streets, EV/e-mobility infrastructure and the retention of natural assets such as tree cover, pocket parks, riparian areas and gardens, similar to and exceeding the amenities included in Schedule D.	Action C1.1.3.   Buildings – Require and incentivise buildings to implement the BC Energy Step Code (rezoning policy and other tools).  Action C1.1.21.   Buildings – Develop an implementation strategy to adopt upper steps of the BC Energy Step Code and the Carbon Pollution Standard for new buildings.  Action C1.1.40.   Buildings – Review the feasibility of a Tax Exemption Bylaw to support property owners in undertaking major energy efficiency, Greenhouse Gas reduction, and climate resilient upgrades.	C1.1.2., C1.1.4,
2. Work with the Nanaimo Old City Community Association to identify a yearly priority project – new or ongoing – that promotes safety in the neighbourhood through changes to the	D4.3.   Ongoing   “Work with neighbourhoods to increase support for community crime prevention programs and	C3.1.5., C3.1.7., C3.1.8.

built environment. The priority for 2023 is the work being done on the parkette at Franklyn and Milton Streets.	neighbourhood safety initiatives (e.g. Community Policing Program).”	
3. Ensure the Nanaimo Old City Community Association is advised of any new development proposed in the Old City neighbourhood in order for the community to understand what steps are being taken to ensure that the development proposal respects the character of the neighbourhood and that the developer is aware of this priority at an early stage of the development review.	D4.1   Ongoing   “Implement the Neighbourhood Associations Supports Policy . . .”	E1.2.7.
<b>Neighbours of Nob Hill Society</b>		
1. That the City limit vehicle access from Victoria Road to the Nob Hill neighbourhood to disrupt external traffic flow from persons looking to buy drugs and patronize the street-level sex trade.	D4.3.   Ongoing   “Work with neighbourhoods to increase support for community crime prevention programs and neighbourhood safety initiatives (e.g. Community Policing Program).”	C3.1.1., C3.1.5., C3.1.8.
2. That the City exercise diligence in approving any new social service providers in the Nob Hill neighbourhood due to those which already exist.	C4.2.3.   Ongoing   Place an equitable distribution lens when prioritizing actions relating to community amenities, social services, facilities and mobility identified in the Integrated Action Plan.	C4.2.2., C4.2.3.
<b>Harewood Neighbourhood Association</b>		
1. Continue to add sidewalks and bike lanes to road infrastructure in the neighbourhood.	C2.2.1   Ongoing   “Continue to fund walking, rolling and cycling facilities to improve quality, safety, and accessibility.”	C2.5
2. Implement community safety audit recommendations and identify hotspots in neighbourhood to focus efforts.	D4.3.   Ongoing   “Work with neighbourhoods to increase support for community crime prevention programs and neighbourhood safety initiatives (e.g. Community Policing Program).”	C3.1.5.
3. Ensure the neighbourhood association is informed of all development applications and projects in the neighbourhood, and in particular, City initiatives related to the protection and development of green space.	D4.1   Ongoing   “Implement the Neighbourhood Associations Supports Policy . . .”	E1.2.7.

Proposed Priority Actions	Related Draft IAP Actions (actions already in library of IAP)	City Plan Policy To Support the Action
<b>SOUTH NANAIMO DISTRICT</b>		
<b>South End Community Association</b>		
1. Expand clean team into the South End Planning Area, beyond Community Safety Office operations, and support community clean-up initiatives.	C3.1.36.   Ongoing   “Perform a Public Space Sanitation Enhancement study to address the needs and service level requirements in public spaces.	C3.1.5., C3.1.8.
2. Prioritize pedestrian safety improvements for neighbourhood with a focus on Nicol Street (and intersection with Needham Street).	C2.2.1   Ongoing   “Continue to fund walking, rolling and cycling facilities to improve quality, safety, and accessibility.”  C2.5.2.   Ongoing   “Work to transition all Collector and Arterial Streets, including the Provincial Highway, that are within or adjacent to Corridor designations, to provide an urban, pedestrian-oriented and attractive street character.”	C2.2.1., C2.2.2., C2.2.6, D5.5.
3. Work with South End Community Association to identify opportunities for creating additional natural / recreation space in South End Planning Area (e.g. pocket parks, community gardens, dog parks, access to water).	C4.9.1.   Ongoing   “Maintain a Land Acquisition Strategy to identify desirable locations for future parks, trails and nature areas, recreation, culture and heritage sites.	C4.9
<b>Chase River Community Association</b>		
1. Address traffic safety and access to neighbourhood (focus on Extension Road and the need for a second primary access to the neighbourhood).	C2.4.4.   Immediate   “Target \$365,000 over the next 5 years to enhance safety through traffic calming.”  C2.4.5.   Immediate   “Create a Vision Zero Toolkit to support strategic monitoring, assessing, and mitigation of collision characteristics across the City.”  C2.4.6.   Immediate   Utilizing emerging technology, undertake a pilot project to test the capabilities of the system to predict collision patterns at intersections to enable staff to proactively make changes at high-risk intersections that have yet to generate high collision rates.  C2.4.7.   Immediate   Develop a citywide speed management strategy.	C2.4.1 – C2.4.5., D5.6

	C2.4.8.   Immediate   Develop a Vision Zero business case to identify future road improvement projects.	
2. Engage with the Chase River Community Association on the South End Community Centre.	C3.3.13   Ongoing   “South End Community Centre – Create a fully integrated community wellness centre for all ages.”	E1.2.5., C3.6.19., C3.6.25. D6.4.
3. Engage with the Chase River Community Association on the Sandstone Master Plan rezoning and development permit process.	D4.1   Ongoing   “Implement the Neighbourhood Associations Supports Policy . . .”	E1.2.3.

## **ATTACHMENT B**

Link to Draft Integrated Action Plan and Draft Priority Actions List:

<https://www.nanaimo.ca/your-government/projects/integrated-action-plan>