

MINUTES
**PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
COMMITTEE ROOM NO. 2
Thursday, September 11, 2014 AT 4:30 PM

Present: Chair: Councillor Leif Wergeland

Members: Michael Fisher, Lee Haney, June Klassen, Travis Lee, Andrea Mercer,
John Schmuck

Staff: Carrie MacPhee, Director Legislative Services; Valla Tinney, Director of
Finance; Debby Harris, Corporate Projects Coordinator; Von Bishop,
Manager of Development and Municipal Facilities; Elizabeth van den
Hengel, Committee Clerk

Regrets: Samantha Charlton

MINUTES

MOVED by J. Schmuck and seconded by A. Mercer, "That the minutes of the Planning, Transportation and Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held June 12, 2014 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

VIBRANT, CONNECTED ECONOMY INDICATORS AND INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH

The Director of Legislative Services presented an overview of the purpose of the meeting which was to review the introductory theme paragraphs and the annual and mid-range performance indicators for the Vibrant, Connected Economy theme.

The committees reviewed the Vibrant, Connected Economy Theme Paragraphs and the following was noted:

- What are we doing to maintain the businesses in Saanich?
- Ability to be innovative in land use and welcoming other types of businesses, etc.
- The Vision Statement and the Theme Paragraphs are wordy.
- Taxes being \$8 to \$10 per square foot causes businesses to fail; taxes doubling every ten year is not sustainable.
- The Shelbourne Valley and Douglas Corridor should be capitalized on through land use planning.
- Can we change the local government Council process that delays development by two years? Innovation and regulatory processes should be reviewed.
- Why don't we have our own economic development office?
- Is the Theme Paragraph true?
- Employment and affordable housing are difficult to find.
- In the Vision statement, Saanich's economy "is", should be changed to "Saanich strives for".
- The technology base in Saanich is in the technology park only.
- Transportation including mobility, transport and walkability needs to be discussed.
- Post-Secondary educational institutions as economic drivers needs to be included.

The committees then reviewed annual and mid-term indicators, and the following was noted:

- Is L7 relevant?
- Reducing the time for processing building permits should be considered.
- New indicators should include new businesses or renewal/losses and how many Saanich employees live in the municipality.
- General – live/work.
- Post-Secondary education under 35 years old.

The Corporate Projects Coordinator thanked participants and advised that notes from the session would be distributed to participants shortly. The Vibrant, Connected Economy draft initiatives would be brought back to committees in Spring, 2015 for review with the draft 2015-2019 Strategic Plan being presented to Council in March, 2015.

NEXT MEETING

The next Planning, Transportation and Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

CHAIR

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary