

WELCOME TO THE “BUILDING THE PLAN” WORKSHOPS

Parks and Community Amenities

WHAT’S HAPPENED SO FAR

A lot of community engagement has been undertaken to find out what is important to Cordova Bay residents. We did:

- Visioning Open Houses
- Visioning Survey
- Village Design Charrette
- Cordova Bay Day
- Younger Age Groups Workshop
- Transportation and Mobility Workshop



NEXT STEP: WORKSHOPS TO HELP “BUILD THE PLAN”

Through the workshops, we are looking to get feedback on policy ideas and explore some issues in more detail. This is the second of three workshops. Information is organized in the following way:



HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1. Review the display boards.
 - If you strongly support a policy idea, place a dot beside it.
 - Check the box to let us know if we are on the right track.
 - Add a comment if you wish.
2. Talk to staff for clarification and to share ideas.
3. Participate in a facilitated workshop discussion to explore some community issues in more detail.

WORKSHOP TOPICS - PARKS AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES

6:00 to 6:40 Exploring Ideas for Beach Accesses

7:00 to 7:40 A Renewed Vision for Fowler and Lochside Parks

PARKS AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Agriculture and Food Security

WHAT WE HEARD

- Support community gardens and farmers markets
- Retain agricultural land

CONTEXT

Almost one-third of Cordova Bay is within the Agricultural Land Reserve. Saanich's Official Community Plan (2008) and Agriculture and Food Security Plan (2018) provide clear direction to support farming, and protect farmland and the integrity of rural areas.

Haliburton Farms, a community organic farm on Saanich-owned land in Cordova Bay, operates under the umbrella of the Haliburton Community Organic Farm Society and is a leading model of community supported, small-scale sustainable organic agriculture.



POLICY IDEAS

- Support the direction provided in the **Agriculture and Food Security Plan** and work to implement its priority actions
- Encourage developers to make **community contributions** that protect farmland or provide funding for initiatives that enhance food security and agriculture
- Continue to support **Haliburton Community Farm** and the sale of produce grown on site
- Support farm sales/markets and opportunities to **increase access to local food** in Cordova Bay and strengthen awareness of local agriculture
- Do not support applications to remove land from the **Agricultural Land Reserve**

COMMENTS?

Are we on the right track?

Yes

No

PARKS AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Marine Areas And Beach Accesses

WHAT WE HEARD

- Improve amenity value and accessibility of beach access points
- Add signage and wayfinding
- Explore allowing commercial activity to increase recreational experiences
- Look to acquire more beach accesses
- Protect the beach and foreshore

CONTEXT

The beach is one of the most important community assets for residents. In addition to four waterfront parks, there are six beach accesses in Cordova Bay beach on undeveloped rights-of-way.

Shared jurisdiction and interests within beach and marine areas requires partnerships with multiple levels of government. The beachfront has areas of high Indigenous land values.



POLICY IDEAS

- Celebrate and promote the **unique character and function** of each beach access point in Cordova Bay
- Prioritize beach accesses for **upgrades and additional amenities** and include in the Parks operational plan
- Transfer **beach accesses that are road ends** from the Engineering Department to the Parks Department and have them identified as Parks assets and part of Parks operations
- Honour local **First Nations and their history** in how beach access areas are improved or redeveloped
- With community input, undertake a **wayfinding and signage program** for Cordova Bay trails and beach accesses
- Explore opportunities to create **additional beach access points** in the Village core through easements and property acquisition
- Explore piloting **temporary commercial activity** at beach accesses that enhances the recreation experience
- Ensure new development is meeting **Provincial flood construction level guidelines** and develop mapping to provide guidance to shoreline property owners

COMMENTS?

Are we on the right track?

Yes

No

PARKS AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Cultural and Indigenous History

WHAT WE HEARD

- Increase the presence of public art
- Add community arts centre/gallery/theatre public spaces
- Provide outdoor public spaces for gathering and cultural displays/events
- Acknowledge the Indigenous history of Cordova Bay
- Celebrate Indigenous art, history, and culture

CONTEXT

Public art is an important aspect of public spaces, and a way to express an area's cultural history.

Saanich's Comprehensive Arts Policy directs that 1% of the District's budgets for capital above-ground works, municipal/parks facility construction or renovation, and parks development budgets be spent on public art.

There is a long, rich Indigenous history in the Cordova Bay area – Indigenous activity that included a village site, burial grounds, and resource harvesting. The South Saanich Treaty of 1852 applies to an area that includes most of Cordova Bay.



POLICY IDEAS

- In keeping with Saanich's Comprehensive Arts Policy, incorporate **public art into future capital works projects** that the District undertakes in Cordova Bay
- Identify **key locations** for future public art installations
- Encourage public art as part of **redevelopment of larger sites**
- Learn and share with local First Nations to develop an understanding of the Indigenous history of the area and how it can best be **acknowledged, respected, and kept alive**
- Acknowledge, honour, and **celebrate the area's First Nations history** by including Indigenous art and historical interpretation into public art and Parks projects

COMMENTS?

Are we on the right track?

Yes

No

PARKS AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Natural Areas

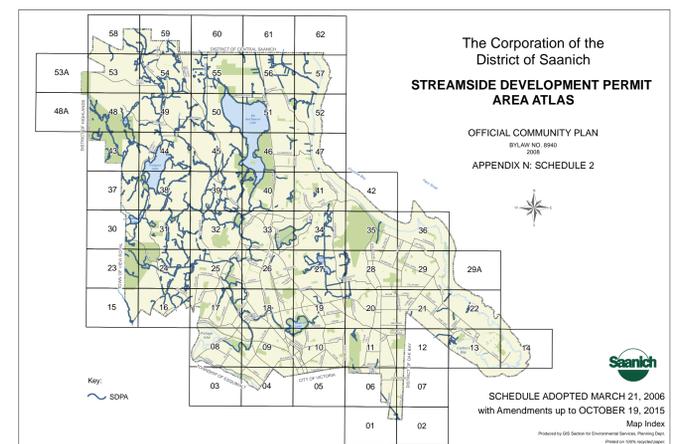
WHAT WE HEARD

- Protect and improve natural areas, tree cover, urban forests, creeks, and trails
- Protect the beach and marine areas
- Celebrate nature and the connection to nature

CONTEXT

Cordova Bay is valued by residents as a place of great natural beauty. Saanich has tools such as the Streamside Development Permit Area (DPA) and the Tree Protection Bylaw to protect natural areas.

In addition to regulatory tools, Saanich also uses education and stewardship to promote environmental protection. Shared jurisdiction over marine areas requires partnerships with multiple levels of government.



POLICY IDEAS

- Conserve the **biodiversity and habitat** of the local area and promote the use of native vegetation
- Promote **healthy stewardship practices** through programs and partnerships that address issues such as invasive species management, Naturescaping, ecosystem restoration, pollinator habitat, pesticide reduction, and natural stormwater management
- Promote Green Shores practices, and explore long-term management objectives and actions toward **naturalizing the shoreline**
- Support efforts by government partners to **protect marine shorelines**, marine ecosystem function and marine habitat, and address sea level rise
- Work with property owners and other partners to develop and implement a **restoration plan for Noble Creek**
- Celebrate the natural environment and the **community's connection to nature** through park design, interpretative signage, and public art

COMMENTS?

Are we on the right track?

Yes

No

PARKS AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Parks, Recreation and Trails

WHAT WE HEARD

- Complete key sections of trails
- Add more parks and park space
- Improve wayfinding and signage
- Update and improve parks (i.e. Fowler Park, Cordova Bay Park, Lochside Park)
- Consider expanding community/recreation services and programs

CONTEXT

Use of parks and trails is a way for many Cordova Bay residents to live active lives and enjoy nature. Cordova Bay is fairly well served with park space based on Saanich standards. New parks and park upgrades are subject to budget considerations and timing.

Saanich uses a centralized model for recreation program delivery and the Saanich Commonwealth Place (SCP) provides recreation services to Cordova Bay. Saanich is currently undertaking a recreation Market Analysis. Results are due in March 2019 and will inform future delivery of recreational programming and services.



POLICY IDEAS

- Complete the public **trail linkage in Doumac Park** to Del Monte Avenue by acquiring a portion of 813 Del Monte Lane or easement
- Develop an **east-west recreational corridor** that connects the beach and village at Cordova Bay Road to Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park via Doumac Avenue, Doumac Park, and Piedmont Crescent
- Support the establishment of a community **wayfinding and signage program** to promote local trails, features, and facilities
- Review the Market Analysis to provide input and direction for **future recreational services** in Cordova Bay
- Support partnerships with community organizations, schools, and other groups to deliver **recreational and community services** in Cordova Bay
- Explore the **integration of community space and facilities** as part of larger redevelopment projects

COMMENTS?

Are we on the right track?	
Yes	No

PARKS AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Urban Forest

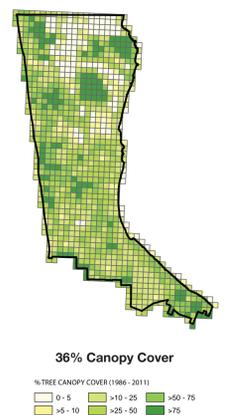
WHAT WE HEARD

- Protect mature trees
- Enhance the tree cover and urban forest

CONTEXT

Trees and tree cover contribute strongly to the character of Cordova Bay. The Tree Protection Bylaw regulates tree cutting and removal.

The goal of the Urban Forest Strategy (2010) is to maintain and enhance the urban forest. Tree protection and enhancement must be carefully integrated with other important Saanich goals for expanding active transportation and providing affordable housing (i.e. garden suites) in order to retain as many existing trees as possible and find optimal locations for new ones.



POLICY IDEAS

- Protect healthy **existing boulevard trees** during redevelopment whenever feasible
- Consider the direction of the Urban Forest Strategy to grow the **urban forest canopy** when reviewing development and subdivision applications on both private and public lands
- Support the use of **suitable tree varieties** for boulevards depending on tree characteristics and site conditions such as space available and servicing (underground and overhead) to maximize the success of new trees
- Retain **mature canopy trees** along recreation corridors and trails
- Consider strategies in **support of soil permeability** to support healthy tree growth
- Support **setback variances** to protect mature trees
- Secure adequate and **suitable planting areas within public rights-of-way** to ensure the long-term health and success of new boulevard trees
- Secure adequate and **suitable planting areas on private property** to ensure the long-term health of new trees on private property

COMMENTS?

Are we on the right track?

Yes

No

CLIMATE PLAN UPDATE



SAANICH IS DEVELOPING A PLAN TO:

- **Become a 100% renewable energy community**
- **Reduce our greenhouse gas emissions by 80% below 2007 levels**
- **Prepare for a changing climate**

A 100% Renewable Energy target helps us recognize that a step change is needed, and will allow our community to save money on carbon taxes, improve air quality and health, and develop new economic opportunities and jobs.

CLIMATE PLAN PROCESS AND TIMELINE



LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

- **Join the e-News list**
- **Complete a survey (until December 7)**
- **Participate at a future workshop**
- **Attend future events**
- **Provide feedback on the draft plan (in 2019)**

100%
Renewable
&
Resilient
Saanich

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