

**MINUTES**  
**HEALTHY SAANICH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Held at the Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room #2  
**October 28, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.**

Present: Chair: Councillor Colin Plant

Members: Merie Beauchamp, Marlene Bergstrom, Nadia Rajan, Dorthy Rosenberg

Staff: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Harley Machielse, Director of Engineering; Troy McKay, Engineering Technologist; Shari Holmes-Saltzman, Senior Planner; Elizabeth van den Hengel, Committee Clerk.

Absent: Marsha Henderson (SCAN), Jean Hodgson, Philip He, Nancy McDuffe, Peg Orcherton, School District #61 Representative

Guests: Dorothy Pearson, Rosemary Liscum, Dave Gerrior

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**MINUTES**

**MOVED by N. Rajan and seconded by D. Rosenberg, “That the minutes of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee meeting held September 22, 2015 be adopted.”**

**CARRIED**

**UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair provided the Committee with the following updates:

- The request for a backyard goat trail period will go before Council in December 2015.
- The formation of the LGBTQ sub-committee has been approved by Council. An informal working group to adjudicate applicants will be created. Members of the Committee are encouraged to apply for the informal working group.
- The LGBTQ sub-committee will be chaired by the Chair of HSAC and the meetings will be open to the public.

**UPTOWN-DOUGLAS CORRIDOR PLAN**

The Senior Planner, Current Planning, provided a background of the Uptown/Douglas Corridor Plan and noted the Terms of Reference (available online) were approved by Council on September 14, 2015. The following was noted:

- The City of Victoria is doing a similar plan and Saanich will be working with them.
- With the jurisdictional areas and transportation issues, staff will also be working with the ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure as well as BC Transit and the CRD.
- A map of the plan area was presented. This is a 20-30 year land use plan that is not large in area but a significant mix of commercial, industrial and residential properties.
- Six key themes guide the plan, and there are ten plan objectives, some of which include: creating a more vibrant and walkable urban centre; having a connected, sustainable and balanced transportation network that encourages more walking, cycling and transit use; enhancing the network of parks, open spaces and culture/community facilities; restoring and enhancing key environmental assets; and, promoting green buildings/renewable energy.

- A consultant will be hired to work with staff and the public to develop a vision and community plan that will guide development for Uptown major centre, the Douglas corridor and surrounding area.
- An advisory committee will be established and will be comprised of about 16 individuals that broadly represent the area demographic and interests. Their role will be to advise on public engagement techniques to ensure outreach is effectively undertaken in the community; promote the project and public engagement opportunities within the community; and, provide feedback to staff on plan concepts and content.

Committee comments and responses to committee questions were noted as follows:

- January 2016 public engagement will begin.
- This area has been identified by Saanich for updating land use plans.
- The area has been identified as having the potential for significant growth.
- A notice regarding the project and the process should be forwarded to SCAN.

Committee thanked the Senior Planner for the information.

## **ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

The Director of Engineering and the Engineering Technologist were present to present the Terms of Reference for the Active Transportation Plan (ATP). The following was noted:

- The purpose and related policies and plans were described as were the objectives for this 25 year plan.
- The Active Transportation Plan will become a guiding document for the Municipality, identifying priorities and a vision for the future.
- A hierarchy was shown which illustrates how the plan fits in with Saanich, the surrounding municipalities and the regional district.
- The ATP wraps all the other Saanich priorities together in an overall guiding document.
- The seven plan objectives were described.
- This plan will need to mesh with others, including the Uptown Douglas Street Corridor Plan, the CRD Master Plan and BC Transit's plans.
- The technical advisory committee and stakeholder groups are to be included; a vast representation is needed and all Community Associations are involved.
- The Director of Engineering noted that this is just the Terms of Reference and a consultant is to be hired.

Committee comments and responses to committee questions were noted as follows:

- UVIC is listed as a stakeholder within the proposed ATP.
- Possible bylaw, policy updates and changes may occur as a result of the ATP.
- The budget for this project is reflective of the scope of the work required.
- Performance metrics will be incorporated into this project.
- Community consultations should be held as part of the public participation process.

## SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

The Engineering Technologist provided information on the Active and Safe Routes to School project which is a joint venture between Saanich and ICBC with a goal to establish the safest routes to schools. Twelve schools were completed in the past; the program restarted in 2015 with three elementary and two middle schools selected based on needs, population density, proximity to other schools and a desire to participate.

Staff will conduct surveys to obtain baseline data and will have to find out what is considered safe. The hope is to create maps to post in the school to show the best routes for safe travel and will have tips to help guide those travelling to school.

This project will also tie into decisions on infrastructure priorities and the Active Transportation Plan.

Committee comments and responses to committee questions were noted as follows:

- The current scope of the Safe Routes to School program is the identification of routes to public schools. Independent schools may be consider for this program in the future.
- Schools who have this program should consider prominently displaying the map in school entrance ways, on school websites and in school newsletters to promote awareness of the safe routes to the school.
- A consultant is being utilized for this undertaking as they have the depth of knowledge to optimize the proposal.

## AIRPLANE NOISE DELEGATION

The Chair introduced Ms. D. Pearson, Ms. R. Liscum, and Mr. D.Gerrior. Ms. Pearson provided information on airplane noise in Saanich. The majority of the aircraft are coming off the water at various spots along the waterfront from Sidney to Maxine Lane. The planes then primarily travel a 500 metre route down Santa Clara and Del Monte Avenues.

The unrelenting noise from these low flying aircraft has had a negative effect on the quality of life for residents in the effect areas. Transport Canada had Nav Canada create flight plans that reduced the noise impact on residents, but it appears as though someone locally changed the flight pattern. Repeated requests to address this issue with Nav Canada have gone unanswered.

**MOTION:**      **Moved by M. Beauchamp and seconded by N. Rajan: “That the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee is in support of Ms. Pearson applying to present as a delegation at a future Council Meeting.”**

**CARRIED**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE:**

Postponed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for November 25, 2015.

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Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

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Committee Secretary