

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SAANICH MUNICIPAL HALL, 770 VERNON AVENUE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2006 AT 7:30 P.M.

Present: **Chair:** Mayor Leonard
Council: Councillors Brice, Brownoff, Derman, Gillespie, Hunter, Ngai, Sanders and Wergeland
Staff: Tim Wood, Administrator; Chris Nation, Municipal Solicitor; Russ Fuoco, Director of Planning; Colin Doyle, Director of Engineering; Carrie M. MacPhee, Manager of Legislative Services; and Shirley Leggett, Senior Committee Clerk.

Presentation **PRESENTATION**

No. 352 **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VICTORIA – GINGERBREAD HOUSE BUILD**
ADM50

Presentation

The president for Habitat for Humanity presented Council with a plaque for Saanich's participation in building a gingerbread house in support of Habitat for Humanity Victoria's 2006/2007 safe affordable housing projects.

Councillors Brownoff and Sanders participated in the event and the theme of their gingerbread house was "Saanich Sustainable Lifestyle". Their entry won for Best Theme.

Minutes **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

MOVED by Councillor Brownoff and Seconded by Councillor Hunter: "That the Minutes of the Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings held November 6, 2006, be adopted."

CARRIED

BYLAWS

No. 352 **SIGNING AUTHORITY BYLAW – HOUSEKEEPING AMENDMENT.**
ADM40

Bylaw 8812

Final Reading of the "Signing Authority Bylaw, 2005, Amendment Bylaw, 2006, No. 8812". Housekeeping amendment to increase the level of signing authority to be coincident with the Purchasing Policy.

MOVED by Councillor Ngai and Seconded by Councillor Brice: "That Bylaw No. 8812 be adopted by Council and the Seal of the Corporation be attached thereto."

CARRIED

No. 353 **LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FEE BYLAW**
ADM40
AMENDMENT.

Bylaw 8814

Final Reading of the "Land Use and Development Application Fee Bylaw, 2006, Amendment Bylaw, 2006, No. 8814". To include a \$5,000 application fee for an air space subdivision plan.

MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Gillespie: "That Bylaw No. 8814 be adopted by Council and the Seal of the Corporation be attached thereto."

CARRIED

No. 354
ADM40
Bylaw 8816

TICKET BYLAW - HOUSEKEEPING AMENDMENT.

Three Readings of the "Ticket Bylaw, 2001, Amendment Bylaw, 2006, No. 8816". Housekeeping amendment to include Fire Prevention Bylaw No. 8807.

MOVED by Councillor Wergeland and Seconded by Councillor Gillespie: "That Bylaw No. 8816 be introduced and read."
CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Wergeland and Seconded by Councillor Gillespie: "That Bylaw No. 8816 be read a second time."
CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Wergeland and Seconded by Councillor Gillespie: "That Bylaw No. 8816 be now passed."
CARRIED

No. 355
ADM40
Bylaw 8821

DELEGATION AUTHORIZATION BYLAW – HOUSEKEEPING AMENDMENT.

Three Readings of the "Delegation Authorization Bylaw (Modification and Discharge of Restrictive Covenants), 2006, No. 8821". Housekeeping amendment for staff position changes.

MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Sanders: "That Bylaw No. 8821 be introduced and read."
CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Sanders: "That Bylaw No. 8821 be read a second time."
CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Sanders: "That Bylaw No. 8821 be now passed."
CARRIED

No. 356
Pipeline Road
Bylaw 8819

4581 PIPELINE ROAD.

First Reading of the "Zoning Bylaw, 2003, Amendment Bylaw, 2006, No. 8819". Rezoning from A-1 to RS-8.

MOVED by Councillor Wergeland and Seconded by Councillor Gillespie: "That Bylaw No. 8819 be introduced and read."
CARRIED

No. 357
Emily Carr Drive
Bylaw 8817

4382 EMILY CARR DRIVE.

First Reading of the "Zoning Bylaw, 2003, Amendment Bylaw, 2006, No. 8817". Rezoning from RS-10 to RS-12.

MOVED by Councillor Sanders and Seconded by Councillor Hunter: "That Bylaw No. 8817 be introduced and read."
CARRIED

No. 358
Margaret Street
Bylaw 8820

548 MARGARET STREET.

First Reading of the "Zoning Bylaw, 2003, Amendment Bylaw, 2006, No. 8820". Rezoning from RS-6 to RS-4.

MOVED by Councillor Brice and Seconded by Councillor Ngai: "That Bylaw No. 8820 be introduced and read."

CARRIED

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

From the Finance and Personnel Standing Committee Meeting held November 1, 2006.

No. 359
FIN115
Dog Licence Fees

DOG LICENCE FEES

Memorandum dated November 3, 2006 from the Finance and Personnel Standing Committee and October 25, 2006 Report from the Director of Finance recommending a three year phased dog licence fee adjustment be approved.

MOVED by Councillor Ngai and Seconded by Councillor Brice: "That effective January 1, 2007 dog licence fees be approved as follows:

Neutered dogs	\$25.00
Un-neutered dogs	\$35.00
Boarding	\$10.00"

CARRIED

From the Police Board Meeting held November 7, 2006.

No. 360
Vernon Avenue
Communications
Centre Building
Project

POLICE/FIRE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE BUILDING PROJECT

Memorandum dated November 9, 2006 from the Saanich Police Board and joint Report dated October 31, 2006 from the Fire Chief and Chief Constable recommending the Police Board and Council approve the necessary funding to complete construction of the new Police/Fire Communications Centre.

In response to questions from Council, the Administrator stated:

- There is still some funding available from traffic fine revenues although he suggests that Council give staff the option of accessing a portion of funding from the general fund surplus and the remainder from the traffic fine revenues.

MOVED by Councillor Hunter and Seconded by Councillor Ngai: "That the Police/Fire Communication Centre Building Project proceed in 2006 on the basis as outlined in Option 2 of the October 31, 2006 joint report of the Chief Constable and Fire Chief, by accessing \$385,000 from the Public Safety account funded from traffic fine revenues and/or general fund surplus."

CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

No. 361
PQS100
Tender 31/06

TENDER 31/06 – GENERAL CONTRACTOR FOR CEDAR HILL RECREATION CENTRE.

Report of the Director of Purchasing dated November 7, 2006 recommending Tender 31/06 for a general contractor for the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre expansion and renovations be awarded to Perma Construction Ltd. for the base bid of \$1,129,974.

MOVED by Councillor Brice and Seconded by Councillor Wergeland: “That Tender 31/06 for a general contractor for the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre expansion and renovations be awarded to Perma Construction Ltd. for the base bid of \$1,129,974.”

CARRIED

No. 362
PQS100
Tender 24/06

TENDER 24/06 – INTEGRATED FIRE/POLICE EMERGENCY CALL CENTRE BUILDING.

Report of the Director of Purchasing dated November 14, 2006 recommending Council award the low tenders for the Integrated Fire/Police Emergency Call Centre Building to the companies outlined, for a total value of \$294,680.

MOVED by Councillor Brice and Seconded by Councillor Gillespie: “That Council award the following low tenders for the Integrated Fire/Police Emergency Call Centre Building, for a total value of \$293,822.75:

C04	Structural Steel - Harjim Industries	\$137,806.65
C06	Roofing/Cladding – Universal Sheet Metal	\$55,032.02
C07	Steel Stud/Drywall/T-Bar/Insulation	\$83,610.68
C08	Flooring – Ramsay Painting	\$11,077.00
C10	Painting – Ramsay Painting	\$6,296.40”

CARRIED

No. 363
PQS100
Tender 35/06

TENDER 35/06 – RENTAL OF TRUCKS AND EQUIPMENT.

Report of the Director of Purchasing dated November 15, 2006 recommending Tender 35/06 for the rental of trucks and equipment be awarded to Don Mann Excavating Limited for the approximate annual amount of \$647,280.

MOVED by Councillor Ngai and Seconded by Councillor Wergeland: “That Tender 35/06 for the rental of trucks and equipment be awarded to Don Mann Excavating Limited for the approximate annual amount of \$647,280.”

CARRIED

No. 364
FIN45
Early Budget
Approval

EARLY BUDGET APPROVAL FOR POLICE/POUND VEHICLES.

Report of the Director of Purchasing dated November 15, 2006 recommending that early approval from the Equipment Reserve Fund be provided for the purchase of two Pound vehicles, up to an amount of \$80,000.

MOVED by Councillor Ngai and Seconded by Councillor Hunter: "That early approval from the Equipment Reserve Fund be provided for the purchase of two Pound vehicles, up to an amount of \$80,000."

CARRIED

On a Motion from Councillor Gillespie, the meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:09 p.m.

No. 365
ADM40
Bylaw 8815

ANIMALS BYLAW AMENDMENT

Three Readings of the "Animals Bylaw, 2004, Amendment Bylaw, 2006, No. 8815". To increase dog licence fees.

MOVED by Councillor Ngai and Seconded by Councillor Gillespie: "That Bylaw No. 8815 be introduced and read."

CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Ngai and Seconded by Councillor Gillespie: "That Bylaw No. 8815 be read a second time."

CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Ngai and Seconded by Councillor Gillespie: "That Bylaw No. 8815 be now passed."

CARRIED

In Camera Motion

MOVED by Councillor Gillespie and Seconded by Councillor Hunter: "That the following meeting be closed to the public as the subject matter being discussed relates to the proposed acquisition and/or disposition of land and/or improvements, and to personal information about identifiable individuals being considered for appointment."

CARRIED

Adjournment

On a motion from Councillor Gillespie, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

.....
MAYOR

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

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MUNICIPAL CLERK

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
 HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
 SAANICH MUNICIPAL HALL, 770 VERNON AVENUE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2006 AT 7:44 P.M.

Present: **Chair:** Councillor Brice
Council: Mayor Leonard and Councillors Brownoff, Derman, Gillespie, Hunter, Ngai, Sanders and Wergeland
Staff: Tim Wood, Administrator; Chris Nation, Municipal Clerk; Russ Fuoco, Director of Planning; Colin Doyle, Director of Engineering; Carrie M. MacPhee, Manager of Legislative Services; and Shirley Leggett, Senior Committee Clerk.

Ascot Drive
 Development
 Variance Permit

3918 ASCOT DRIVE – DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT – SITAL SINGH AND KASHMIR KAUR PAHAL.

Report of the Director of Planning dated October 20, 2006 recommending approval of Development Variance Permit DVP2005-00015.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Planning stated:

- He is not aware of any business operating from the subject property.
- The applicants are the same owners who submitted an application to the Board of Variance in 2005.
- If the application is approved, there is no set mandatory time for the applicant to deconstruct the existing enclosure; staff would expect the applicant to take action within 30 days, but if not, then staff will pursue it further with the applicant.

Mr. P. Sekhon, 881 Canterbury Road, stated:

- He is the representative for the applicants/owners.
- The applicants and their family have lived in their present location for the past several years; they have a large extended family and would like them to be able to reside at the same address.
- When the house was built in 1999 it was constructed with a carport style void under the living room area which included a semi-enclosed wall; when the applicants purchased the house they undertook construction to fully enclose this area.
- The applicant, Mr. Pahal, is the sole supporter for his family and if they are forced to remove the wall that was constructed it will cause a hardship to the family.
- There have not been any changes made to the electrical system, building footprint, or setbacks; there should not be any impacts to the neighbours' privacy but if there are, they will install some kind of screening.

Mr. D. Grant, 3914 Ascot Drive, stated:

- He is a neighbour of the applicants.
- The issue of enclosing the void area has been ongoing for the past two years; the owners enclosed the area without a Building Permit and he is concerned that there is no time restriction if the owners are made to remove the enclosure.
- He feels there are still a number of concerns that have not been addressed even though the Planner's Report is recommending the Development Variance Permit be approved.

Ms. M. Lyon, 3919 Persimmon Drive, stated:

- Her property backs on to the subject property and the dwelling is quite visible.
- She has noticed that there appears to be a number of different people living in the house; it does not look like there is an access from the main portion of the house to the enclosed area.
- She thinks the dwelling is being used as a triplex; even duplexes are not permitted under the current zoning.

Mr. K. Whitcroft, president, Quadra Cedar Hill Community Association, stated:

- He would like to know why the proposal was not referred to the Association from the Planning Department.

Mr. K. Singh, 4158 Tuxedo Drive, stated:

- The applicants are only using the dwelling for their family; it will not be rented out and there are no businesses operating from the property.

A resident of Saanich stated:

- He has lived in Saanich for the past 15 years and knows the applicants; they want to have their extended family live with them; they will not use the house for any other purpose.
- The applicants are a hard working family and it will be a hardship if they cannot all live together.

A resident of 3918 Ascot Drive stated:

- Her grandparents will be living with them as well as her brother and his wife so they need the additional space.
- Although their family is growing in numbers it is very important for them to stay together.
- It is a great neighbourhood and she has her friends and school nearby.

Mr. W. Heslup, 3917 Persimmon Drive, stated:

- If the application is approved, it will mean that the allowable floor space in non-basement areas will be increased to 100 percent; does this mean there will be no storage space in the house, and if so, will the applicants then be permitted to construct outbuildings for storage?
- Even after the Board of Variance rejected their variance application, the applicants continued to enclose the void area.
- He does not have any problems with extended families living together but he is not sure that is the case in this situation.
- He is concerned that if Saanich does not deal with illegal construction it will continue to take place.

In response to questions from Council, Mr. Heslup stated:

- He is not aware of any business operating from the subject property although there are lots of people that come and go.

In response to questions and comments, the Director of Planning stated:

- Triplexes are not legal in this zone; he is not aware that the subject dwelling is being used as a triplex.
- There have been bylaw enforcement issues and building inspection staff involved with this particular application; he does not know if staff have been inside the dwelling or just on site.

Councillor Hunter stated:

- The applicants' submission to the Board of Variance to allow the additional floor area was rejected because the Board felt there was no hardship.
- There appears to be some inconsistencies with the information that has been presented and it should be clarified by staff.

Councillor Sanders stated:

- When she was the president of the Quadra Cedar Hill Community Association, she was contacted by concerned residents on Persimmon Drive and had the opportunity to view the subject property.
- It is indeed an unusual design with the void area below the upper floor; even a few years ago it was questionable whether or not there were one or two families occupying the lower space in the dwelling.
- The house appears to be a completely finished dwelling when viewed from Ascot Drive but from the rear, there is a huge open area that was in all likelihood meant for the creation of a larger floor space.
- Approving the application to increase the allowable floor space in non-basement areas to 100 percent could set a precedent for future applications.

Councillor Wergeland stated:

- He can appreciate the concerns of the neighbours; the enclosure was undertaken without a Building Permit.
- This issue has been ongoing for the past two years; we should address these situations when they initially occur.
- The Planner's Report indicates that the privacy of the adjacent neighbours will not be impacted; he supports the application.

Councillor Gillespie stated:

- He would like to see the application postponed in order to clarify the information that has been presented.

MOTION:

MOVED by Councillor Gillespie and Seconded by Councillor Derman: "That consideration of the Development Variance Permit application for 3918 Ascot Drive be postponed, and that additional information be provided regarding whether or not a portion of the dwelling is being rented, and if construction continued to take place after the application was rejected by the Board of Variance."

Councillor Derman stated:

- There are allegations that construction continued to take place after the application was rejected by the Board of Variance and he would like it clarified by staff whether or not that is correct.

Councillor Brownoff stated:

- She supports postponing further consideration of the application; she agrees that we need to have more information on whether or not construction took place after it was rejected by the Board of Variance.

The Motion was then PUT and CARRIED, with Councillor Wergeland voting against.

McLellan Place
Road Closing and
Highway Dedication
Removal

ROAD CLOSING AND HIGHWAY DEDICATION REMOVAL BYLAW (MCLELLAN PLACE).

Report of the Lands Commissioner dated November 7, 2006 recommending Council adopt "Road Closing and Highway Dedication Removal Bylaw, 2006 (McLellan Place), No. 8813".

In response to questions from Council, the Lands Commissioner stated:

- Staff is considering a covenant and an allowance to plant some hedging on the homeowner's property once the house is constructed in order to address privacy issues.

MOTION:

MOVED by Councillor Gillespie and Seconded by Councillor Wergeland: "That Road Closing and Highway Dedication Removal Bylaw, 2006, (McLellan Place), No. 8813 be processed to Council."

CARRIED

ADM225
Streetscape Safety
Projects

STREETSCAPE SAFETY PROJECTS.

Report from Mayor Leonard dated October 25, 2006 recommending staff report on the four initiatives outlined during the 2007 Financial Plan meetings, a policy be established of authorizing concept designs for projects only where initial warrants and funding sources indicate construction is likely to proceed within five years, staff update for Council consideration development cost charges for areas that have approved plans and prepare development cost charges whenever new plans are approved, and projects be renamed "Streetscape Safety Projects" to better reflect the renewed emphasis on safety.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Engineering stated:

- The preliminary estimate for the streetscape plans on file may have to be increased to reflect today's construction costs.
- Typically, operational components refer to areas that although they may not constitute a safety hazard per se, they limit the function of the road.

Ms. L. Popham, 6170 Old West Saanich Road, stated:

- She realizes that addressing safety concerns is important when revitalizing streetscapes but feels it would be a step backwards to single out the safety component as the most important aspect; Saanich should take a more holistic approach.
- The environment has to be a high priority along with safety; stormwater treatment and tree planting as part of streetscape plans contribute to a healthy environment.
- We spend millions of dollars in Saanich each year to enable a healthy living atmosphere; we have excellent recreation facilities and

trail systems.

- She urges Council to consider calling streetscape projects “Streetscape Sustainability Projects”.

Mr. P. Dixon, 2208 Edgelow Street, stated:

- Saanich’s Sustainability Guidelines include a section on crime prevention through environmental design.
- There should be a holistic approach for an integrated design for modernization that includes compatibility with natural systems in the environment and crime prevention through environmental design.
- Recommendation No. 2 states: “*Council establish a policy of authorizing concept designs for projects only where initial warrants.....*”; this policy will likely suffocate any attempt to move forward on new ideas and innovative designs for streetscapes that meet modern requirements.
- He would rather see an emphasis based on positive values which promote a healthy community while instituting crime prevention plans in the designs.

Ms. H. Hodson, 773 Tulip Avenue, stated:

- She has two children ages two and five and has recently become involved with the school system; she supports an emphasis on the safety component of streetscape projects.
- In her area there are about 2,000 students traveling to and from school but there are no sidewalks, curbs or bike lanes for them to use; there is no safe route for the children to get to school.
- Some of the streetscape projects have already been completed so she would like to know if there are funds available to proceed with the Burnside Road streetscape plan.
- The watermain reconstruction project along Burnside Road is proceeding and she does not understand why some remodeling is not being undertaken at the same time to improve the streetscape.
- She would rather sacrifice flowers and trees in the short term in order to address safety, and have a long term plan with several objectives that allow them to be scheduled in a priority sequence.

Mr. O. Brandes, 920 Arundel Drive, stated:

- He recognizes that the concept of security is a high priority; it should include healthy ecosystems and resilience to natural events such as stormwater; building these concepts into our urban design is critical.
- With modern integrated designs, concepts, and practices we can see that safety, aesthetics and sustainability can be achieved.
- In this case, there is the question of short term costs versus long term benefits and future costs; he asks that Council take a balanced approach and factor in present and future costs.

Ms. E. Turnbull, on behalf of the Royal Oak Community Association, stated:

- The Association would like to know why Saanich would not be holding a referendum when there is an estimated 28 million dollars involved.
- The Mayor’s Report references capital priorities, upgrading sewers and storm drains, pavement rehabilitation, etc; she thought these things were incorporated as part of streetscape plans and that as

funding became available, the entire project was considered as a whole entity.

- Perhaps we should just call it streetscape projects because it encompasses everything; the Association is now asking developers to donate a specific project that fronts their development.
- The Regional Growth Strategy emphasizes walkable communities and focuses on alternative transportation modes; the Royal Oak area is becoming a major centre – if we just focus on safety there could be problems if we do not provide a vision for the future.

Ms. C. Pickup, 977 Lovat Avenue, stated:

- This is not a one dimensional issue; safety should not be the only word used in conjunction with streetscapes.
- Safety, beautification and the environment go hand in hand; to promote one over the other is counterproductive.
- The Arts Policy includes commitments from several Municipal departments to include some form of art in their streetscapes; excluding aesthetics and beautification in streetscapes means you are not following your own policies.
- She would like to know what stage the Environmental Management Plan for Saanich is at; this Plan should also be an integral part of streetscapes.
- She agrees that if there is a shortage of funding that a referendum should be held; the public would support spending more money to improve the infrastructure and streetscapes are part of that.

Mr. R. Warden, president, North Quadra Land Use Protection Association, stated:

- The Association supports the concept of a well designed streetscape but safety is not the only the issue.
- Residents are relying on the streetscape process in the hope that it will help prevent cut through traffic and poor planning.
- The issue of streetscapes is a complex, multi-faceted process that includes healthy communities, sustainable environments, vibrant and connected communities, balanced transportation modes, and safe communities.
- There needs to be the concept of a comfort zone so that people walk in their neighbourhoods; people who use alternate modes of transportation support a balanced network plan.
- This Report does not cover all of the interrelated components of a streetscape plan.

Ms. L. Martin, on behalf of the Strawberry Vale Residents' Association, stated:

- The concept of combining aesthetics and safety looks good on paper; however, there is a lack of vision on Saanich's part with regard to the Strawberry Vale area; they sent in an application in January for traffic calming in their area and it has not even been acknowledged.
- Burnside Road West at Colquitz School through to Helmcken Road is a major traffic and pedestrian route; when public works improvements are undertaken is there a cohesive plan that takes into consideration traffic calming, safety and beautification?

Ms. J. Sigmund, on behalf of the Gorge Tillicum Community Association, stated:

- The Association feels that the Report is very one dimensional in its focus; streetscapes should add beauty to a neighbourhood as well as safety.
- Streetscaping should be part of traffic management, promote pedestrian safety, and encourage alternative transportation; it should also include stormwater management.

Ms. M. Warden, 936 Lucas Avenue, stated:

- She does not own a vehicle so she walks and relies on the transit system.
- There is a new shop that recently opened at Quadra and Nicholson Streets but the sidewalk environment in that area feels hostile; people feel uncomfortable walking in the area and would probably rather drive their vehicle to access the shop.
- Streetscapes involve more than just safety.

Ms. H. Stewart, on behalf of the Friends of Harriet Road, stated:

- The Report has provided members of the public an opportunity to discuss what streetscaping means; obviously the community feels it is a much broader concept than what the Report indicates.
- There are 16 streetscape concepts that have been approved by Council; the community expects that those plans will be undertaken within a reasonable timeframe.
- If the streetscape plans have to be reprioritized it should be based on a process and criteria that is fair and that the community accepts; it should not be detrimental to the older neighbourhoods in Saanich.
- The cost of labour and construction materials increases every year; if we are talking about fiscal responsibility, why not undertake these projects sooner rather than later.

Mr. H. Charania, 757 Genevieve Road, stated:

- He would like to thank the Mayor and Council for the Report and allowing the community an opportunity to participate in the discussion.
- He cannot dispute the importance of safety as a consideration in designing and constructing streetscapes, however, the Report ignores many other necessary elements required for urbanization of our area.
- Based on the Report, he visualizes suburban streets with sidewalks and infrequent road crossings; this is an outdated view because Saanich is about to initiate urbanization of many of its streets in its urban core and along its major transportation routes.
- Streets should be functional, friendly, environmentally pleasing and encourage mobility and walking.
- In Recommendation No. 1(a) he recommends that Council give consideration to expanding the recommendation to include other relevant factors while designing streets.
- Recommendation No. 1(b) is redundant and should be deleted; in

Recommendation 1(c), weighting criteria, should include all of the relevant factors.

- In Recommendation No. 2 he would prefer to see a ranking scale from one to ten; in Recommendation No. 4, he recommends that Council give consideration to renaming the projects as “Streetscape Urbanization Projects”.

Mr. I. Graeme, 2615 Dean Avenue, stated:

- He wants to recognize the Mayor for taking this initiative out to the public for their comment.
- We should not forget that a community’s streets are its primary public spaces for life and commerce; Saanich does not have a single downtown area so our streets are a key part of that life and commerce.
- Fundamentally, he thinks there is a deficiency because there are no objectives mentioned - there is just some subjective terminology; there should be some specific objectives on what we are trying to accomplish.
- In his neighbourhood, Shelbourne Street has the highest concentration of seniors in Saanich; it is a two kilometre regional corridor with a regional centre proposed for each end of it.
- The Regional Growth Strategy talks about walkable, liveable communities; there is a regional watercourse and a watershed plan that addresses stormwater management and road design but the infrastructure in that area is failing.
- As a taxpayer he would like to see an integrated approach; this will make a better use of resources and address all of the costs and benefits.

Ms. S. Henry, 3906 Holland Avenue, stated:

- She agrees with addressing safety, traffic increases, environmental issues, and beautification in streetscapes.
- She walks in her neighbourhood and has seen the extreme increase in traffic in her area; it has become a conduit for traffic moving from the western communities into her neighbourhood and the Saanich Peninsula.
- The safety, health, environmental and destruction of beauty due to the increased garbage that is thrown from vehicles, and fast moving traffic, needs to be addressed and a priority in streetscape plans.

Ms. J. Gaylord, on behalf of the Gordon Head Residents’ Association, stated:

- There are many areas of Gordon Head where traffic issues have been an ongoing problem for a number of years; the residents do not care about streetscapes in these areas they just want a safe pedestrian environment.
- Considering the amount of time that many residents from different communities have spent developing their streetscape plans, it would be perceived negatively if the projects were reprioritized based solely on safety criteria.
- There are also health issues to consider; rather than expecting people to join a gym it is more realistic to encourage them to walk; this will only happen for many people if there is an attractive,

pedestrian friendly environment which is an integral part of streetscaping.

Mr. D. Harris, 1030 Tolmie Avenue, stated:

- He has only been a resident of Saanich for the past 16 weeks.
- He is in agreement with an integrated design approach and the many benefits that can be achieved.
- Saanich is one of the seven municipalities who have made a commitment to investigate every possible workable solution for the issue of sewage treatment; this is where an integrated design approach could save a lot of money in the long term.

Ms. G. Massey, on behalf of the Camosun Community Association, stated:

- The Association also agrees with an integrated approach to streetscaping.
- The Report suggests that an additional 4.2 million dollars be spent on Shelbourne Street which they feel is already a very functional street; Richmond Road on the other hand, has been a transportation corridor for many decades but has had little or no improvements made to it.
- Sidewalks in the area vary from cement to a narrow asphalt path, to no path at all; this makes it unsafe and inaccessible to pedestrians and scooters.
- There is also a very high volume of students using the buses at Camosun College but there is no pedestrian crossing for those who catch the bus at Snake Rock.
- Some traffic calming has been done along Richmond Road but more is required; proper curbs should also be constructed.

Ms. S. Waite, 935 Woodhall Drive, stated:

- The proposal is drafted as a regressive solution to the problem; inadequate streetscapes are counterproductive to efforts on the part of the Municipality to promote a healthy Saanich.
- There is growing scientific evidence about the relationship between the environment and the overall health of the population; environmental factors can promote or discourage physical activity.
- The problem with the current proposal is that it accepts that budgetary constraints should be the controlling variable in building or improving streetscapes so long as they are safe from an engineering point of view; it fails to address the disincentives to physical activity created by hostile pedestrian environments in Saanich.

Mr. E. Dahli, president, Cadboro Bay Residents' Association, stated:

- The Association hopes that if Saanich decides to make safety their main focus at this time, they will not redo the infrastructure if they decide to add some beautification components in the future.

Ms. L. Kinarthy, 2582 McDonald Drive West, stated:

- She would like to thank Council for bringing this issue to the attention of the community.
- She works for the Business Improvement Association for the

Cadboro Bay Village; more businesses and higher density means increased revenues for Saanich.

- Safety should be a higher consideration in communities where there are lots of children, schools and elderly people.
- It is Saanich's responsibility to ensure that communities are safe, and it is the developers' responsibility to make sure that safety is incorporated with aesthetics so it becomes a more liveable community.

Mr. P. Gerrard, president, Gorge Tillicum Community Association, stated:

- In the Gorge Tillicum area they have the Tillicum/Burnside Action Plan, Admirals Road and Harriet Road concept plans; all of these have streetscape plans have been approved by Council and now they are at risk by being superseded by other plans.
- Clearly, the funding of streetscaping and infrastructure in Saanich needs to be overhauled; there is not enough money to go around and to wait the length of time they have been told they may have to wait is not acceptable.
- Goldstream and Millstream Avenues in Langford now have beautiful streetscapes and other areas are doing it as well; he would like Saanich to be a leader; streetscaping is an investment.

Ms. C. Helmink, 3114 Harriet Road, stated:

- She and her family have lived in the same home in Saanich for the past 71 years; this neighbourhood has been waiting a long time for some improvements to the streetscape, particularly on Harriet Road.
- It is difficult for pedestrians to walk along Harriet Road unless you are on the portion of it that is located in the City of Victoria.
- We need to look to the future in terms of our spending; we may need to incur some debt in order to get the streetscape projects completed in a timely fashion.

Mr. K. Whitcroft, president, Quadra Cedar Hill Community Association, stated:

- Road standards need to be changed to reflect the changing times; if we keep using the standard curb and gutter we will never protect our environment because of the pollutants from our roads.
- In the core area of Quadra Cedar Hill, many of the streets have nice grassy boulevards while other boulevards are gravel and being used for parking; this takes away from the aesthetics of the area.
- Perhaps we should revise the Development Cost Charges and start collecting the funds now for future projects; using the gas tax would also be a good idea.
- He thinks the projects should be renamed "Complete Streets Projects".

Mr. R. Whitson, 2836 Inez Drive, stated:

- This has been a great debate and he thanks the Mayor for the Report.
- Residents in the Gorge Tillicum area worked with Saanich staff to develop an action plan; it was apparent there was a lack of will and funding on Saanich's part so the community raised their own \$26,000 and their action plan evolved into a streetscape concept

plan.

- Streetscapes are part of a place and their community wants their place to be the best it can be; the area fronting Tillicum Mall may have a sidewalk but it does not feel friendly; people would rather walk in the Burnside area because some improvements have been made there.

Mayor Leonard stated:

- The process of creating streetscape plans began about eight years ago; it soon became apparent that there were more projects than there was money, and that the warrant system was not really very effective.
- In March a discussion paper was distributed and posted on our website and based on the feedback a list of recommendations was prepared; most of the comments suggested increasing the supply and taxes because people want their streetscape projects completed.
- We have been increasing our infrastructure spending considerably over the past few years but construction inflation is starting to affect projected costs; funding for seismic upgrades are also becoming a challenge.
- It may sound like a good idea now to spend more money on streetscape projects but when we get into the 2007 financial plan meetings people are not going to want a 20 or 30 percent tax increase.
- Even if we decide to go to a referendum in two years many taxpayers may question whether or not these streetscape projects are in context with all of the other demands on taxpayer dollars.
- If we have not developed a planning process it could be 10 years or longer before we even get to some of these streetscape projects.
- His report recommends that staff look at the components of these projects and determine how they can get started on as many of them as possible in a shorter period of time; it will mean phasing in some of the elements of the projects and he has suggested that the highest priority be placed on safety; Council will then be able to consider them at next year's financial plan meetings.

MOTION:

MOVED by Mayor Leonard and Seconded by Councillor Hunter:
"That:

1. **Council request staff report on the following initiatives during the Financial Plan Meetings in 2007:**
 - a) **Reassess all projects with safety and operational components given a high priority, and purely aesthetic components assigned a low priority.**
 - b) **Reassess all projects by reducing the scope of works, that is, by keeping the standards intact but cutting back, where practical, the area receiving street beautification.**
 - c) **Create a criteria/weighting formula giving less weight to "first-come first-serve" and more consideration to other**

criteria such as safety, non-tax revenue sources, major redevelopment, and contribution to community mobility.

- d) **Reprioritize existing projects based on this new formula.**
2. **Council establish a policy of authorizing concept designs for projects only where initial warrants and funding sources indicate construction is likely to proceed within five years;**
3. **Staff update for Council consideration development cost charges for areas that have approved plans and prepare development cost charges whenever new plans are approved; and**
4. **Projects be renamed “Streetscape Safety Projects” to better reflect the renewed emphasis on safety.”**

Councillor Derman stated:

- He does not support the recommendations; the issue of the backlog of streetscape projects is the creation of Council; for a number of years Council approved concept plans without ever budgeting funds to complete them.
- It is a matter of priorities and finding the available funding; we probably spend about 20 times the amount on our recreation facilities per year as we do on our streetscapes; our recreation facilities are fabulous but he also supports finding ways to put more resources into what the taxpayers want.
- The creation of streetscapes is part of the modernization and revitalization of our municipality; these are some of the most important public spaces that we have.
- We need to get people to walk more and use their vehicles less; we cannot do that unless there is an attractive, comfortable, pedestrian environment.
- Part of the health of our municipality is improving our streets.

Councillor Hunter stated:

- He appreciates the report from the Mayor and all of the comments from the community.
- As the Chair of the Finance and Personnel Committee he is aware of all of the demands on the taxpayers' dollars.
- Council's responsibility is to listen to the comments of the community and integrate them into what Saanich can accomplish.

Councillor Wergeland stated:

- When we look back at the planning that has gone on over the years in Saanich it is easy to say we should have done it differently.
- We all want a healthy environment and a beautiful, liveable, safe community to live in.
- What we are trying to accomplish is to be able to meet the cost of all of the streetscape projects; there are many areas that could end up waiting a long time.

- Many people have talked about supporting a referendum; they may change their minds when they see the future CRD tax bill in order to cover sewage treatment; there are also a lot of demands on the Municipality for affordable housing.

Councillor Ngai stated:

- She supports the recommendations; many of the speakers mentioned safety, beautification, and environment – no one mentioned the financial aspect.
- There are some areas of the Municipality that do not even have sidewalks which make it very difficult for pedestrians and scooters; the approach that is being recommended is to bring those areas up to a standard level of safety; we also have to replace infrastructure in some of the older parts of the Municipality.
- Arts and culture, parks and recreation, police and fire, and waste collection are all very important and have to be considered during budget planning along with streetscape projects.

Councillor Brownoff stated:

- We have a Traffic Calming Policy and a Pedestrian Master Plan is being developed; we also collect Development Cost Charges but none of these things have been mentioned in the Report; some of the projects that were listed in the original report have been completed or are underway so the actual cost of the projects should be revised.
- We need to define the meaning of streetscape and what it incorporates; Saanich promotes itself as a healthy, active community and walking is very important.
- We need an integrated balanced approach and to develop a policy on how to address older neighbourhoods; they will not get any money through redevelopment or Development Cost Charges.
- There is no mention in the Report of grant opportunities or future costs for maintenance.
- We need to establish a committee comprised of community members and staff to work on this issue; she will not support the recommendations.

Councillor Sanders stated:

- She is unsure of what constitutes a safe streetscape; will road dividers, islands, parking bays be done away with?
- Streetscapes create a sense of place; not only are they beautification, they make a community safer; funding opportunities have not been considered.
- She does not support the recommendations; there is not enough information and she does not know if it will be money well spent in the long term.

MOVED by Councillor Gillespie and Seconded by Councillor Wergeland: “That the meeting extend past 11:00 p.m.”

CARRIED

Councillor Gillespie stated:

- He appreciates the amount of time and effort that was spent on the report.
- Stormwater runoff causes a lot of pollution throughout the Municipality and money will have to be spent to refit many of the watermains.
- There are certainly older areas of Saanich that have been neglected and need to be improved but we cannot do it all at once.

Councillor Brice stated:

- The Discussion Paper was meant to generate discussion throughout the community and it certainly has done so; all of the comments have been very helpful.
- There has been some opportunity to discuss the conceptual stage of these streetscapes; however, during the upcoming financial plan meetings we will also have to consider affordable housing, sewage treatment, libraries, public transit, etc.
- The recommendations ask for a staff report in order to provide some focus; decisions will be made by Council based on the information staff brings forward.

The Motion was then PUT and CARRIED, with Councillors Brownoff, Derman and Sanders voting against.

Adjournment

On a motion from Councillor Gillespie, the meeting adjourned at 11:09 p.m.

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CHAIR

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

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MUNICIPAL CLERK