



BRIEFING NOTE

To: Council
From: Chief Administrative Officer
Subject: Official Community Plan (OCP) – Stakeholder Consultation

File No.: 6480-01
Date: June 29, 2020

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

2019 - 2022 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES REFERENCE:

November 2019 Strategic Priority Chart: Number 1 (NOW) Priority

- OCP – Consultation Process (public input/consult report)

Strategic Priorities 2019 - 2022

We continually invest in our key relationships

We support diversity in housing & reasoned land use planning

- Complete an update of the City's OCP and Zoning Bylaw
- ▲ ■ Advocate and cooperate with local and senior governments on regional issues affecting our community

ISSUE:

OCP project staff are preparing for a series of short online meetings with community stakeholders and local government partners to identify key policy issues and opportunities. The meetings are anticipated to be online only and will take place in the next few weeks. After completion of these meetings, the project team will categorize several major policy topics based on the stakeholder feedback. Staff will use this information to organize a series of workshop style sessions with stakeholders as well as Councillors to share knowledge of each topic and build general consensus on approaches to policy development and implementation. The format of the workshop will likely be a hybrid of in-person and online. Councillors will be given an opportunity to choose which workshop(s) to attend, however there will be a limit of 2 Councillors at each session. Staff will advise Council once detailed information including a schedule of the workshops is confirmed.

An online public survey on future growth options will be launched mid-July. This survey is to collect opinions from the public on two proposed growth options developed by the OCP project team and the consultant. Notice of the survey will be advertised on the City's website and social media sites as well as the local newspaper. The notice will also be sent out to individuals who registered their email address through the project website. All residents of Courtenay are encouraged to provide feedback. Staff will provide Council with a copy of the survey prior to its public release.

BACKGROUND:

The OCP update project is continuing with public and stakeholder engagement and is beginning the policy drafting stage. This phase is essential to formulate sound policies to achieve the vision of becoming a net zero GHG emission community by 2050 and also to properly respond to emerging policy issues identified

through public and stakeholder consultation. The online public survey will provide the project team with a broader sense of preferred growth option that aims to achieve the vision.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS/NEXT STEPS:

- Project team to conduct meetings (online) with stakeholders including government agencies
- Project team to identify broad policy topics in July
- Online public survey on future land use growth model options will be launched and available for the month of July and August
- Topic focused workshops (online and in-person) will be conducted in August/September

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