

DRA Board Meeting Agenda

November 21, 2023

Location: ZOOM

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Present: Sandra Severs (President), Doug Boyd, Colby Young, Jeremy Zhao, Dawn Moorhead, Jordan Royer, Sherry Lee

DRA Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator: James Davis

City Council Liaison: Dave Thompson

City Staff: Kimberley Stratford

DRA members: Mano Majunder, Max Thomson

5:30 p.m. Call to Order, Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Approval of Agenda

5:35 p.m. Councillor Update: Dave Thompson

Councillor Thompson provided following updates:

- **Homelessness:** city is addressing homelessness through limited tools incl. police and bylaw. City hired a Parks Relocation Coordinator through Pacifica Housing (originally to be coordinated through Capital Region Alliance to End Homelessness) to work with individuals in parks to connect them to housing and services.
- **Transit project:** rapid transit lines to be set up for key locations incl. Douglas St. corridor. Currently identifying ridership. Long-term objective to review feasibility to build Light Rail Transit.
- **Housing:** city is responding to provincial legislative changes related to housing.

Update on 900 Block of Pandora Good Neighbour Group meeting:

- A multi-agency site will be opening up at the Harbour soon **funded through VIHA.**
- Alix Golden Hall Conservatory intends to reestablish ability to host events in coming Spring. Currently use limited due to lack of permanent fencing.
- Advocacy for a 24/7 washroom on Pandora St. continues.
- Extreme weather response (EWR) coordination event occurred -coordination of shelter spaces by Salvation Army. Concerns for insufficient capacity given data on number of unhoused compared to available spaces.

5:55 p.m. Downtown Update: Kimberley Stratford (report attached)

Kimberley provided update on scope of the City Staff Liaison. The role will primarily support Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator in working with neighbourhood associations. The Liaison can provide connections to responsible staff of each specific issue/project.

6:15 p.m. Executive Report: Sandra (report attached)

- **ACTION** Re. OCP Review: Sandra will meet with contractor “Wiser Projects” to initiate review process.

6:20 p.m. Standing Committee Reports – Q and A

- **Urban Livability Committee (ULC) and Urban Ecology and Agriculture Committee (UEC):** Michael/Colby (no report)
 - Following rejection of EOI for new community garden on View St. Parkade citing engineering report, committee assessed options for another existing vacant lot. However, only short-term (1-2year) use is possible in these lots. Committee is advocating city to consider community gardens as a Park Sequencing Plan and Land Use issue. **ACTION:** Councillor Thompson will review concern and seek further information on City's decision.
 - Upcoming Naloxone training Nov 27.
- **Communications and Membership Committee (CMC):** Doug (report attached)
- **Governance Committee:** Dianne (no report)
- **Land Use Committee (LUC):** Ian/Jordan (report attached)
- **Community Engagement Committee (CEC):** James (report attached)

6:25 p.m. External Meeting Reports – Q and A

- **Victoria Community Association Network (VCAN):** Sandra/Ian (no report)
- **900 Pandora Good Neighbour Group:** Sandra (report attached)
- **Greater Victoria Harbour Authority Community Liaison Committee:** Doug (no report)

7:30 p.m. Meeting concludes

ADDITIONAL EMAIL MOTION circulated November 24/23

Moved by Sandra Severs. Seconded by Doug Boyd.

That Max Thomson be invited to become a member of the VDRA Board until the AGM, at which time, his name would become part of the slate of nominees put forward for confirmation.

CARRIED.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 5:30pm



DOWNTOWN

Sheltering in Parks

On Thursday, November 9, Council added four more parks where camping will be prohibited. The resolution also approved continuation of the work of the Parks Relocation Coordinator for other parks and public spaces. Staff will also report to Council with recommendations for considering where camping should and should not be allowed in the City.



Sidewalk Patio Licences

On November 2, Council approved amendments to the Sidewalk Patio Bylaw. There are currently 57 Sidewalk Café permits and 32 Build Back Victoria (patio) permits, which expire on December 31, 2023. Several businesses have constructed enclosures on their patios which will require removal on this expiration date. Other changes increase allowable heights of fencing, provide clarity on terms related to security gates and awnings, and clarify terms for special events in patios. Council directed staff to reconsider proposed changes that would retain preclusion of seasonal, unpaved boulevards and report back by January, 2026.



IDEAS FROM AROUND THE CITY

Placemaking Done Quick

Over the late summer, you may have noticed the quick placemaking projects at Ship Point, Centennial Square and South Broad Street. The same approach was used at each site – green artificial turf, with white furniture with various games thrown in. On Ship Point, food trucks and musical performances were added to the mix. This approach is something you may want to consider for a place in your neighbourhood where you would like to facilitate some community gathering next summer.



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Your Council Liaison
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The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees and Esquimalt people.



IDEAS FROM FURTHER ABROAD



Developing Neighbourhoods in Ottawa

Ottawa has a well-established approach to improving quality of life in neighbourhoods. Through their [Community Development Framework](#), community associations and other service providers work together to determine priority issues in the neighbourhoods and action plans for addressing them. Working Groups develop approaches for improvements on priority topics such as community safety, capacity building and civic engagement and a steering committee ensures that the process is successfully

implemented. Details of the process is described in the framework manual.

Social Connection Research Shows Links to Health

What if there was something in our everyday lives that could decrease the risk of developing and worsening heart disease, anxiety, high blood pressure, dementia and diabetes? That something is called **social connection**.

Earlier this year the US Surgeon General published an advisory on our epidemic of loneliness and isolation. Today, the loneliness and isolation epidemic is a major public health concern in North America. As associations improving quality of life for residents, you will find that this research contains significant and important information on why and how to foster social connection. Read the advisory and access shareable tools on this study on the [US Surgeon General’s webpage](#).

The Six Pillars to Advance Social Connection

1 Strengthen Social Infrastructure in Local Communities
Design the built environment to promote social connection
Establish and scale community connection programs
Invest in local institutions that bring people together

2 Enact Pro-Connection Public Policies
Adopt a “Connection-in-All-Policies” approach
Advance policies that minimize harm from disconnection
Establish cross-departmental leadership at all levels of government

3 Mobilize the Health Sector
Train health care providers
Assess and support patients
Expand public health surveillance and interventions

4 Reform Digital Environments
Require data transparency
Establish and implement safety standards
Support development of pro-connection technologies

5 Deepen Our Knowledge
Develop and coordinate a national research agenda
Accelerate research funding
Increase public awareness

6 Build a Culture of Connection
Cultivate values of kindness, respect, service, and commitment to one another
Model connection values in positions of leadership and influence
Expand conversation on social connection in schools, workplaces, and communities



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Kindness Advent Calendar

With November here, thoughts are turning to the Christmas season and everything that comes with it. Whether you're religious or not, many people today are beginning to look for advent calendar ideas that take a more meaningful approach to the season including a Kindness calendar. Raising people who exhibit kindness and empathy is something we have to intentionally model and discuss. As the saying goes, kindness is "taught, not caught." With that in mind, why not use the advent tradition as a time to focus on kindness and acts of service instead?



MAKING IT HAPPEN

Fall Community of Practice Session – Branding your Organization



The Neighbourhood Team is offering another free workshop for neighbourhood associations and community organizations. In this interactive session, we will explore what it takes to create and sustain a great brand. We will ask you to share your current brand and discuss the underlying factors that are necessary to support a successful brand. At the end of the session, you will have a good understanding of branding and take away some specific ideas for improvements that your association may choose to focus on. Whether it's a "tune up" on your existing brand or you are just starting out, we hope that it will provide you with valuable information. The workshop will be held **Wednesday, November 29 from 4 - 6:30 p.m.** If you have not received an invitation and would like to attend, please reach out to us or email neighbourhoods@victoria.ca.

My Great Neighbourhood Grants to Open Early in 2024

For the first time since its inception, the *My Great Neighbourhood Grant* program closed early with the funds fully expended. The City supported 44 great placemaking projects and community development activities across the city. Among the funded projects were block parties, a cleanup of Clover Point beach, a harvest celebration and more colourful murals. Each one of these projects will make a difference in creating community in city neighbourhoods. Now is the time to start



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thinking about potential ideas as in 2024, the **grant program will open February 1**, two months earlier than last year. Reach out to us to discuss your ideas so we can assist you in shaping a successful application.

Council Meetings

Council has meetings coming up on November 23 and December 14. Committee of the Whole meetings, where Council discusses proposed resolutions at length, are scheduled for November 16, 23 and December 7 and 14.

Looking for more ways to stay in touch? Sign up for our [City e-newsletter](#) for monthly updates on City programs and initiatives. Register with our [Have Your Say Engagement Portal](#) for a monthly notice to participate in surveys and other online engagement opportunities.

Executive Committee Report –November 2023

OCP Review – A meeting of some members of the Land Use Committee, the Board and Rebecca Mersereau and Julie McGuire of Wisser Projects took place on October 23rd to begin the OCP review process. A Project Charter has been signed and a project planning group has been determined. The planning process for public engagement will begin in mid-November with a community meeting to be organized for the second week of January. A date and location will be confirmed shortly.

Banking- In preparation for an application to the provincial government for a Gaming Fund Grant, Doug and Sandra have set up an additional bank account through our banking provider Coast Capital Savings. While there is no guarantee that we will receive Gaming Grant funds, the application cannot proceed without providing a dedicated bank account for the receipt of such funds. The Gaming Fund Grant application is due November 30th. James is working on the final draft of our submission.

Capacity Building – Sandra and James have been working on the draft of the DRA’s report back to Mayor and Council on the use of the “second time one-time only funding” which was received by the DRA and NPNA in 2023. Sandra has had conversations with Mayor Alto about the timing of our request for our funding to be renewed and changed to ongoing operational funding in the same way that neighbourhood associations with community centres receive funding. Mayor Alto has indicated that a request for funding should be sent in by the first week of January 2024.

Seasonal Shelters – Sandra participated in the coordinating meeting for the rollout of the Extreme Weather Response shelters. Currently winter shelter beds will be provided at Our Place (20 mats) and Victoria Native Friendship Centre (25 mats). In addition, EWR mats will be provided at the Salvation Army (30 mats), St. John the Divine Anglican Church run by SOLID (30 mats) and there will be an additional 20 mats provided at Rock Bay that are not funded by EWR money from BC Housing.

Discussion about the threshold temperatures at which the EWR is triggered will be discussed by the Salvation Army, SOLID and Cool Aid and will be part of the community plan presented to BC Housing for approval. Currently the EWR is triggered at 0 degrees Celsius when combined with rain/sleet. Whether BC Housing would fund EWR at 3-5 degrees has not yet been determined. Participants pointed out that winter conditions above 0 degrees Celsius are often miserable and require a compassionate response.

Warming centres will only open if first responders deem that the weather conditions are such that people are at risk of death. That will be determined by emergency protocols (like those that would be activated if there is an earthquake) and not when the EWR is triggered. Service providers cannot determine when warming centres are opened.

What this currently means is that unhoused folk will continue to shelter in tents on Pandora and in the remaining permitted parks until housing is finally provided, which will be years from now. Those on Pandora will continue to shelter this winter without access to washrooms overnight.

VCAN – The October meeting of VCAN was cancelled and so there is no report.

Communications and Membership Committee Report – November 2023

Update on Committee activities since the October 2023 report:

- **Newsletter / Other Communications to Members:**
 - The October newsletter was issued on October 18 . Statistics from Mail Chimp indicate that it was opened by 41.4% of subscribers. The items receiving the highest number of clicks were the City of Victoria Development Tracker and the City Emergency Preparedness Workshop.
 - We intend to put together a newsletter by November 23 and welcome contributions from Board members.

- **Web site**
 - We continue to add posts to the News page and add events to the Events page of our new website.
 - 278 site sessions over the past month (down 8% from the previous month). The most viewed post was the Naloxone training event.

- **Social Media**
 - The number of posts over the past month, and the current number of followers are:
 - Facebook - 5 posts, 1038 followers
 - Instagram - 1 post, 929 followers
 - Twitter - 1 tweet, 1154 followers

- **Other**
 - 2 new members since the last report. As a note, we send welcome letters to all new members inviting them to become involved with DRA activities, and, where applicable, to become an ambassadors for posting notices of our events in the buildings where they live.
 - 14 new newsletter subscribers since the last report

Submitted by
Doug Boyd
Chair, Communications and Membership Committee

**Land Use Committee Report – For Board Meeting
21 November 2023**

City of Victoria Development Tracker: <https://tender.victoria.ca/WebApps/OurCity/Prospero/Search.aspx>

Current

1. 851 Broughton – Concert Properties

CALUC meeting to consider development of YMCA/YWCA site to include 225 condominiums and 150 market/affordable rental homes. Pre-CALUC booked for October 30th. Held, application will come mid-2024 at the earliest.

2. 1885 Government Street – Pooni Group/ Nicola Wealth Real Estate

CALUC meeting to consider an OCP amendment, Rezoning and Heritage Alteration Application to the City for site at 1885 Government St. Pre-CALUC booked for October 30th. Cancelled

3. 1011 Fort Street - Wild Coast Construction

CALUC meeting to consider a rezoning application to amend Zoning Regulation Bylaw #80-159 Part 6.55, 1(1)(k) & 2(2) – which currently prohibits dwelling units on the first storey and also requires that retail uses occupy not less than 75% of both street frontages – in order to allow the conversion of two small commercial suites facing Meares Street into residential use. Commercial units on Fort St. will be maintained. **CALUC meeting held on September 5.**

4. 1215 Langley St – Heritage Alteration Permit – Francophone Society

HAV application received for 1215 Langley St for Francophone society redevelopment of bastion square building; adding a balcony to the exterior. **No response sent as no committee input received.**

5. 825/827 Fort Street – Development Permit Variance – Salient Group

Previously Fairfield – now within downtown, currently under construction. Requesting an additional storey. Application closed to responses – skipped public input.

6. 539-545 ½ Fisgard & 16-18 Fan Tan Alley – Temporary Use Permit – Salient Group

Temporary Use Permit for short term accommodation. **Responses overdue – note that transient accommodation was just announced to not be allowed.**

7. 586 Johnson Street – Liquor License – Forged

Preliminary letter received for upcoming permit application at 586 Johnson St for liquor license. **Waiting for application.**

8. 1050 Yates – Chard Properties

Development Permit with Variance application for a mixed use development which includes purpose-built rental housing and ground oriented retail and shared amenity spaces. The proponent is asking for a variance of 24.22m or eight storeys, reduction of setbacks throughout and a reduction of 173 parking stalls. Status: **revised drawings received on September 12**

9. 937 View St – Nelson Investments w/ de Hoog & Kierulf –

Development Permit with Variance to build an 19-storey (over the 10 storey permitted) 60.2 m (over the 30m permitted), 266 studio and 1 BR market rental units with 0 vehicle parking and 317 bikes spots on R48 land and located in Fort St Heritage Corridor (using pre-fabricated components?). Proposed FSR 7.97. The applicant is not proposing to rezone away from the R48 zone but is requesting a height variance. Updated Status: **Revised drawings received on July 19**

10. 919 Douglas – Strathcona hotel – Liquor license

Liquor license application received to change to a complete liquor primary license for Strathcona hotel. Status: **letter sent to council on August 23**

11. 727 Yates – Saint Franks

Liquor license application to change location from broad st to yates st location received for Saint Franks received. Status: **Letter sent to council July 20**

12. 579-585 Johnson St – Hartwig Industries w Studio 531 architects

Heritage Alteration Permit with Variance & Devt Permit applications to construct a new mixed-use building while retaining the heritage building at 579 Johnson in 2 phases (new buildings: P1, Cameron building: P2). “The project proposes to amalgamate 2 sites.” The existing 1F building on Johnson will be demolished. The proposal includes three buildings (new 4F on Johnson, existing 2F heritage on Johnson and new 5F behind others) with one storey below grade. 25 residential units with a mix of 1 BD and 1 BD+den. FSR of 2.72:1. No vehicle parking is required or proposed and 49 bike parking proposed (48 required). Declined by both HAPL and ADP at their final meetings in 2021. Revised plans were posted on Development tracker April 27, 2022. Status: HAPL meeting was held July 14 to confirm Municipal Heritage designation on 579 Johnson St.

13. Delegating Minor Variance

Council is requesting CALUC feedback on allowing minor development variance permits to be delegated to staff.

14. 533 Chatham St – LeFevre Developments

Development Permit with variance application for a mixed use building and through block walkway and subdivision of property with existing heritage building. The proposal requires variances for height of building and on-site parking. Variance is for height (5.7m) and parking reduction of 13 stalls (from 92 to 79). Status: **Heritage Advisory Panel meeting held April 11th, 2023**

15. 780 Blanshard/ BC Power Building – Reliance Properties

Rezoning to construct/add an 18-storey tower (proposed uses 17F residential + 1F amenity) above the existing 4-storey heritage registered building (proposed hotel use) with a total FSR 4.6. The heritage designation is proposed to be concurrent with the Rezoning and the Heritage Alteration Permit approvals. No on-site parking proposed but offered that they may have access to 25 off-site spots. The hybrid CALUC with concurrent in-person and online attendance was held on 21 March 2022 with in-person at The Parkside Hotel. The CALUC letter was submitted 27 April 2022 reflecting the community’s concerns regarding the poor quality of the in-person presentation (audio and visual deficiencies) with a request for a second properly planned and executed CALUC meeting. Status: **Revised Drawings Received by City March 31st 2023.**

16. 530 Chatham – Reliance Properties w D’Ambrosio

Rezoning application to permit residential uses, retail, commercial, arts and cultural facilities, high-tech, office, assembly, studio, small-scale commercial agriculture, parks and open space, and to designate two heritage-registered buildings. An OCP amendment is required for the addition of residential uses and for height. Proposal includes buildings with 2-6F podiums and 3 towers of 10F, 13F and 17F with a density of 3.0:1. Heritage buildings will be preserved and adapted for reuse. Public Amenity Contributions include open spaces and land for a proposed new art gallery. Online & in-person CALUC meeting with Burnside Gorge and Downtown residents took place on 21 Sept 2021 with comments open until 03 Oct 2021. Approved at Heritage Advisory Panel on 10 May 2022. Revised drawings were received 1 February which precipitated a second CALUC Status: **CALUC waived by DRA and Burnside Gorge due to limited changes**

17. 1045 Yates St, Harris Chrysler (Phase 1) – Starlight

Development Permit with Variance concurrent with a Rezoning Application related to area of 4.9 acres over two sites. Proposal includes: 5 & 4-storey podium with 23 & 22 storey towers with a 6.18:1 FSR. Rental for 518 residential units, including mix of studio, 1, 2, 3 BRM, & TH with 7 Ground-oriented and 10 podium units with 348 onsite parking stalls & 674-bike parking. Proposal includes 484m² for Daycare. **Special Council meeting on February 16th: 3rd reading of zoning and OCP amendments. Council indicated support for the application (6-1). Motion to adopt zoning amendments, bylaw amendments, and housing agreements was postponed. Motion to approve development permit with variance was postponed.**

18. 1205 Quadra/911 Yates – Starlight

Rezoning and OCP Amendment and Devt Permit for two sites on the south side of Yates between Quadra & Cook: 1.35 hectare full 900-block Yates and the 0.63 hectare eastern half of the 1000-block Yates, 1045 Yates. Revised proposal includes: 5 & 4-storey podium with 34, 31 and 30 storey towers with an overall FSR of 6.06, 1584 new rental apartments, including 27 ground-oriented units and 30 podium-level units with 1291 parking spaces, and 2125 bike parking. Proposal now includes reference to a 2109 m² “public park” “play areas” & “dog park on View St” for the 900 Yates block. A 484 m² Daycare is also noted as included. Status: Revised drawings were received on August 8th. **Special Council meeting on February 16th: 3rd reading of zoning and OCP amendments. Council indicated support for the application (6-1). Motion to adopt zoning amendments, bylaw amendments, and housing agreements was postponed. Motion to approve development permit with variance was postponed.**

19. 2621-2629 Douglas Street (**BURNSIDE**) - Merchant House Capital

Pre-application CALUC for rezoning and DP. Applicant is seeking to rezone parcel at 2621 Douglas - near the former Times Colonist Building. 12-storey purpose-built rental building. 160 units ranging from studio to two-bedroom. No on-site parking.

LUC: Ongoing and Active

20. 1205 Blanshard/Capital Six – Jawl Properties with D’Ambrosio –Rezoning & Devt Permit applications for 15,792 sqm total/commercial floor area, with an FSR of 5.89:1, 44.35 m/10 storeys, 144 onsite parking stalls, 117 bike spots. Online alternate CALUC meeting took place on 13 July 2021. Revised plans posted 13 Jan 2022. CALUC letter submitted 01 Feb 2022. Status: Bylaw Adopted
21. 603 Pandora Avenue –Hampton Inn Development – Held an Open House September 28th indicating a fall/winter development application. Application will include height and density variances.
22. 1030 Fort – Jawl Properties w Cascadia Architecture – Rezoning and Devt Permit with Variance for a 6-storey (22.28m) market rental project with CRUs at grade and 30 residential units (20 x 1BD+den and 10 x studio) with FSR of 4:1. No onsite parking is proposed (24 req) with 56 bike parking spots (44 req). An online community meeting was held on 31 Aug 2021. Approved at ADP on 23 Feb 2022. Status: Revised application received on July 5th, a letter response was sent to the city on July 20th. The project received 1st and 2nd reading on August 4th with a referral to public hearing once the following conditions are met: arborist report, housing agreement, transportation demand measures secured legally, park provisions secured, public hearing fee paid and notification signs erected.
23. 579-585 Johnson St – Hartwig Industries w Studio 531 architects – Heritage Alteration Permit with Variance &. Devt Permit applications to construct a new mixed-use building while retaining the heritage building at 579 Johnson in 2 phases (new buildings: P1, Cameron building: P2). “The project proposes to amalgamate 2 sites.” The existing 1F building on Johnson will be demolished. The proposal includes three buildings (new 4F on Johnson, existing 2F heritage on Johnson and new 5F behind others) with one storey below grade. 25 residential units with a mix of 1 BD and 1 BD+den. FSR of 2.72:1. No vehicle parking is required or proposed and 49 bike parking proposed (48 required). Declined by both HAPL and ADP at their final meetings in 2021. Revised plans were posted on Development tracker April 27, 2022. Status: HAPL meeting was held July 14th to confirm Municipal Heritage designation on 579 Johnson St.
24. 780 Blanshard/ BC Power Building – Reliance Properties – Rezoning to construct/add an 18-storey tower (proposed uses 17F residential + 1F amenity) above the existing 4- storey heritage registered building (proposed hotel use) with a total FSR 4.6. The heritage designation is proposed to be concurrent with the Rezoning and the Heritage Alteration Permit approvals. No on-site parking proposed but offered that they may have access to 25 off-site spots. The hybrid CALUC with concurrent in-person and online attendance was held on 21 March 2022 with in-person at The Parkside Hotel. The CALUC letter was submitted 27 April 2022 reflecting the community’s concerns regarding the poor quality of the in-person presentation (audio and visual deficiencies) with a request for a second properly planned and executed CALUC meeting. On 10 May 2022, Miko Betanzo, City Planner, emailed the DRA LUC and the applicant the following,
25. 836 Yates –Heritage Alteration w Variance for approval of fence and gates, variance for height of the fence. Council declined the previous HAP w/V on 09 Dec 21. As of Mar 2022, all fencing and gates have been removed from the property. (Note: this application, in combination with any application from neighbouring 848 Yates, will effectively remove all or part of the pre-existing mid-block walkway that was presented with expansion and improvements as part of the application for Chard’s development at 848 Yates St and identified in DCAP as part of the pedestrian network.) Status: New Application Review by City 07 Mar 2022 for the HAP w/V of fence & gates, variance for height of fence. Plans posted on the Devt Tracker. DRA letter response sent May 20th.

26. 710 Caledonia – Chard/ProvBC – Rezoning and Devt Permits to develop three buildings over a shared commercial podium that includes office, grocery store, childcare and public plaza. Burnside Gorge LUC invited DRA LUC members to attend the Zoom meeting on Mon 07 Feb 2022. Status: Revised plans submitted to City on June 15th
27. 700 Government St – HAVN Experiences Ltd/Nicholas Van Buren – Rezoning to permit personal service uses (sauna) in the Inner Harbour & Devt Permit to convert a barge into a floating sauna structure. Status: Revised plans sent to City June 3rd.
28. Fairfield Gonzales LUC (on DRA border): 846 Broughton – Parc Living – Rezoning and Debt Permit to increase density and allow for a 10-storey mixed-use building. Status: Staff Review of Revised Plans 02 Mar 2022.
29. 516 Discovery (Burnside Gorge border) – City-initiated rezoning as part of the Rock Bay Plan to rezone to the M2-I Zone. The M2-I Zone – Douglas-Blanshard Industrial District permits limited light industrial uses, high-tech, service-commercial & limited retail. The following uses are the only uses permitted: high-tech, call centre, professional services (including architects, engineers, & surveyors), retail sales of home furnishings, home supplies or sporting goods, and retail sales & offices as accessory uses incidental to, and less FSR than, principal use. Limits on FSR of each use per building or by portion of site. Status: Only activity is City doc posted on 14 Sept 2006. Item added to follow in relation to “Innovation District” related proposals at our northern border.
30. Municipal Alcohol Policy – Staff provided update on progress on the policy with request from council on direction on several items at daytime Council 09 Dec 2021. Much time spent reviewing context and suggestions to expand the scope of the policy. Work will continue with direction given from council on all items brought from staff. No new information on this file to date.
31. 1244 Wharf – Salient Group – Heritage Alteration Permit and Rezoning File for exterior alterations (changes to existing windows and addition of new windows, changes to entrance door locations, building material changes, and an addition of a new rear balcony). Concurrent Rezoning File: REZ00739 concluded with approval to add hotel use. Status: Review of Revised Plans 24 June 2021.
32. 450 Swift St. Craft Beer Market Victoria Harbour. Liquor License Application. Notice of Application to combine two existing Liquor Primary Licences into one Liquor Primary Licence and Change Hours of the resulting Liquor Primary Licence.
33. Combine the two existing liquor primary licences that currently total 315 persons to one licence. Two liquor primary patios are proposed of 80 persons and 75 persons from the existing 315 persons to be licenced on the patio under the liquor primary licence. Align the liquor primary hours with the existing approved food primary hours: 9.00am – 1.00am, Monday – Saturday and 9.00am – midnight Sunday. New Liquor Primary would run from 9AM – 1:00AM every day, aside from Sunday which would be 9AM-MIDNIGHT. Current Liquor Primary runs from 11:00AM – MIDNIGHT Monday-Sunday. Letter Sent December 29th.
34. 27-560 Johnson Street. Artemis Whiskey Bar. Extending Liquor License Hours.

The application is to change hours of liquor service for an existing liquor primary license and proposes to increase hours on Friday and Saturday only by one hour each day from 12am to 1am. The occupant load is 110 people and is not proposed to change. All licenced areas are interior as the establishment does not have exterior seating.

35. 910 Government Street. Axe and Grind. Liquor License Application.

The application is for a new liquor primary licence having hours of operation from 9am to 2am daily with an 80-person occupant load. The application does not include any outside seating. Letter Sent December 14th.

36. 854-880 Pandora Avenue (**NORTH PARK**) - Townline Development

A twelve-story building with a varied unit mix of apartments and townhomes, including: 36 studio units (28%), 24 one-bedroom units (19%), 15 one-bedroom + den units (12%) , 51 two-bedroom units (40%) , Two three-bedroom units (2%), Large podium-level indoor/outdoor space with varied programming tailored to the needs of the building and its residents, Rooftop lounge and outdoor social space. The project constraints are approximately 7,100 ft² of ground-floor commercial space. Density of 4.5 FSR.

This is a development occurring in North Park, but is right on the border of the Downtown Neighbourhood. The project is not yet on the Development Tracker. The NPNA has invited the DRA to attend a CALUC meeting dated February 28th, at 6:30PM, in the BOSA Building Community Room at 1008 Pandora/1025 Mason Street.

Archived or Inactive or Cancelled

1. 1.Zoning existing City parks as parks. Why has the City not committed to this? What can our committee do to advocate for protection of these community amenities? Discussed at 06 July 2020 DRA LUC meeting.
2. Develop a draft doc outlining guidelines for Heritage Corridors as referred to in the OCP, and as relevant to Fort St, etc. Discussed at 12 Aug 2020 pre-CALUC meeting. Quinn is reviewing supporting docs.
3. Rapid Deployment of Affordable Housing – City-led initiative to consider an application to amend the Land Use Procedures Bylaw to delegate development approvals for non-market affordable housing to the Director of Sustainable Development and Community Planning in all Development Permit Areas. Additionally, Council is considering an application to amend the Zoning Regulation Bylaw and the Zoning Bylaw 2018 to establish a maximum floor space ratio for qualifying affordable housing developments. Approved at Public Hearing on 14 Apr2022.
4. Neighbourhood Boundaries – Non-statutory public hearing at Council 27 Jan 2022. City proposal to change boundaries between Downtown and Fairfield to include DCAP plus other lands outside DCAP. DRA board and LUC sent letters not supporting change as proposed. LUC posited suggestion that only DCAP area should be considered for inclusion in Downtown but nothing else. Council amended the motion as advised by LUC and approved. Will come to Statutory Public Hearing as some changes require OCP amendments. Status: Report to Council on 17 Feb 2022.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – NOVEMBER 2023

1. Recent activities:

Queer Open Stage: Two open stages have taken place since the October report. The October event was quieter than usual, with 22 people attending and 6 performers, including poet Jeremiah Gittens who was the featured performer. The November edition included performances by 7 people who had not performed at the event in the past, as well as 3 others who have taken part previously, including featured performer Venus in Furs. The event was attended by 30 people and several expressed interest in volunteering in subsequent months.

Wicked Victoria: Board members and volunteers ran a “Dogs of Downtown” photo booth and also gave out halloween treats to children.

2. Upcoming activities:

DRA Holiday Social: Board and committee members are invited to theDock on Tuesday, December 12th from 6 to 7:30 pm for food, beverages and socializing.

Queer Open Stage: The next open stage will take place on Thursday, December 14th (one week earlier than usual so as not to conflict with holiday events) and the featured performer will be singer-songwriter Skye Alexander.

3. Welcome package and events:

A new DRA member, who recently moved into The Pearl Residences on Store Street, has offered to help distribute welcome packages to her fellow residents and also assist with planning a welcome event once the majority of them have moved in.

We have also been in conversation with contacts at The Mod on Cook Street and The Wedge on Vancouver about distributing packages to residents as occupancy begins in the coming weeks.

Submitted by: James Davis, Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator

900 Block of Pandora Good Neighbour Meeting – October 2023

Washrooms

Work continues on advocacy for a washroom on the 900 block. Councillor Thompson and Councillor Loughton raised this issue in the media and received good press coverage.

<https://www.timescolonist.com/local-news/247-bathroom-needed-for-pandora-homeless-encampment-victoria-councillors-say-7726318>