

DRA Board Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2022

Location: ZOOM

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Present: Sandra Severs (President), Doug Boyd, Michael Demakiling, Dianne Flood, Ian Sutherland, Darragh de Groot

Absent: Nicholas Harrington

City Council Liaison: Councillor Geoff Young sent regrets.

City Staff: Mike Hill

Guests: DRA member Colby Young, Trevor Premack

Call to Order/ Welcome of Guests/ Approval of Agenda

Sandra called the meeting to order and the agenda was approved.

Councillor's Report- Geoff Young – no report

Downtown Update – Mike Hill — Report attached. Mike highlighted a number of items in his report, including:

- **Neighbourhood Boundary Review** — Mike confirmed that the public hearing was held on January 27 to address the possible adjustment to the Fairfield/Downtown Neighbourhood boundaries and that Ian had attended to speak to the DRA's views. Sandra clarified some confusion about the status of the DRA letter on the boundary adjustment with the Burnside Gorge NA, which was sent to Council in early January. That boundary is expected to come up for further discussion by Council at a later date.
- **Community Garden Grants** – Consolidation and streamlining of the various grants is being proposed.
- **Street Construction in Neighbourhoods** - Residents can find information about large City construction projects in their neighbourhoods on the City's online map, at: <https://vicmap.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3fe72a5ff05a40828456a10d2234bfc2>. Mike was asked if it was possible to get developers' street closures on the map as they are so plentiful downtown and cause real traffic issues for many downtown and other residents.

Mike gave some background information about the upcoming motion to re-open Government Street to cruise ship traffic, and also about the expected process for a new Council and their strategic planning process, which generally occurs after an orientation

period (so early in 2023), and typically builds on and may revise the existing Strategic Plan rather than starting entirely anew.

Follow-up from the January Minutes:

Neighbourhood Boundary Review: See Downtown Update above.

Public Amenity Contributions – Starlight Developments: The Executive met with the LUC and, with support from the LUC, will work on drafting a submission in anticipation of an upcoming public hearing (see Executive report).

Liquor Policy and Licenses: This is still in progress. Ian and Sandra, as the DRA members of the LNAC will follow up on this.

Community Virtual - February 16 Neighbourhood Led Action Plan –Dianne has registered to attend and will report back in March.

Conestoga Huts: This has been referred back to the Urban Livability Committee for a response by the Board when more information is available.

Executive Report - Sandra Severs

Report attached.

Sandra was pleased to confirm the City of Victoria has approved additional funding to the DRA for 2022. This additional amount, \$78,020, will now bring our funding in line with the City's funding of other Neighbourhood Associations. The new funding will increase our capacity as an organization and enable us to better serve the needs of the residents of Downtown.

Standing Committee Reports

- **Urban Livability Committee:** Report Attached. Discussion included possible DRA involvement in street cleaning activities and whether unhoused persons might be paid to do some of the work. Given the similarity to the existing DVBA Clean Team, the Committee will review that program and consider what a DRA program might look like, its potential costs (including the possibility of applying for a My Great Neighbourhood Grant) and come back to the Board with a recommendation.
- **Land Use Committee:** Report attached. The list is lengthy, and lots is going on. Of note is the joint BC Housing/private developer proposal for the Capital CityCenter Hotel development in the Burnside Gorge neighbourhood, but which is on our boundary. Ian noted that the proposal is over the DCAP and OCP maximum densities and that Victoria will soon have a higher residential density than almost anywhere else in North America, exceeding not just Vancouver but Manhattan.
- **Community Engagement Committee:** Report attached. The follow up workshop on homelessness, "How does it feel?" will be held on February 15.
- **Communications and Membership Committee:** Report attached. The newsletter

- will go out mid-month so if there are items they should be forwarded asap.
- **Governance Committee:** Report attached. The details for the AGM were approved and the Board also approved the wording of the draft special resolution to amend the By-laws to permit a limited number of non-residents to be appointed as Board members, which is to be presented at the 2022 AGM.
 - **Urban Ecology and Agriculture Committee:** No report attached.

Mike Hill left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

External Meeting Reports

Victoria Community Association Network (VCAN): Report attached. The Board approved signing onto the draft letter to be sent to Minister Eby about efforts to retain existing rental housing stock.

Late Night Advisory Committee (LNAC): No meetings and no report.

Greater Victoria Harbour Authority Community Liaison Committee: Report attached.

DVBA Clean and Safe Committee: Report attached.

New Business:

Proposed Government Street Re-Opening: Discussion about what was being proposed, by whom and why, and the position the DRA should take in response to the issue. The Executive agreed to draft a letter to Council, reflecting the Board's general consensus on this.

2022 Strategic Planning and Budget: The Board reviewed the draft documents circulated earlier to Board members. After discussion and in recognition that these are "living" documents that may need to be revised as circumstances require, the Executive received approval to present these documents as part of the AGM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. by ZOOM.



DOWNTOWN



Governance Review

Council has approved proposed scope for the City’s Governance Review to Council. The objective of the review is to seek “efficient, effective and inclusive governance”. The next phase of the project will involve further community engagement, a review of current process documents and best practices, and a report to Council with recommendations by July 24, 2022.

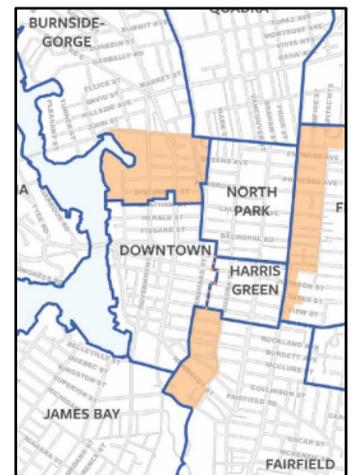
<https://pub-victoria.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=76420>

<p>Council Meeting / Decision-Making Processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agendas and schedule Virtual participation Decision-making information Decision-making processes 	<p>Role of Mayor and Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Role and responsibilities Participation on committees Time commitment Remuneration, incl expense & constituency fund 	<p>Advisory Committees and Task Forces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure, mandate and delegated authority Function, administrative support and processes, including flow of information 	<p>Public Access and Input to Council Decision-Making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equitable access, Public participation in decision-making processes Virtual participation 	<p>Transparency & Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision-making processes Public reporting on implementation of plans and progress Reporting on response to public input
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Neighbourhood Boundaries

A public hearing was held on January 27 regarding proposed boundary changes between the Downtown and Fairfield neighbourhoods. Comments were received from the Downtown Residents Association regarding the relocation of the boundary. Council resolved to direct staff to prepare an Official Community Plan amendment to facilitate a change of boundary consistent with the Downtown Core Area Plan boundary.

Council has also provided direction that the Downtown Residents Association and Burnside Gorge Community Association be requested to meet and then provide their views on a suitable boundary between the downtown and Burnside Gorge.



Public Skating

Enjoy public skating this winter at the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre. All ages and abilities are welcome and skate rentals are available. Skate where the Victoria Royals play! View the February public skating schedule online. Proof of vaccination is required. Learn more at victoria.ca/arena.



Neighbourhood Staff Contact:
Michael Hill mhill@victoria.ca

Council Liaison:
Geoff Young gyoung@victoria.ca



DOWNTOWN

New Youth Poet Laureate

The City of Victoria and the Greater Victoria Public Library are pleased to announce Eli Mushumanski as Victoria's new Youth Poet Laureate. The Youth Poet Laureate is a one-year term position for 2022. In addition to the year-long mentorship, the position receives a \$1,750 honorarium and \$2,000 of project funding.



Community Garden Grants

On February 10, Council will receive a staff report recommending the adoption of a proposed Growing in the City (GITC) Grant Policy which will integrate all food and gardening grants currently providing over \$200,000 in support to the community. The proposed policy streamlines all high-level food systems' grant information, including the GITC grant policy's objectives, grant definitions, and review process, while also linking to the specific details of each grant's terms of reference, such as the eligibility criteria and application process.

<https://pub-victoria.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=77026>

Fitness at Crystal Pool Reopens

Fitness facilities at Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre are open for individual activities and group classes with limited capacity. Due to capacity limits required under current COVID restrictions, group fitness classes must be booked in advance. The pool and other facility amenities continue to be open and do not require advance booking. Check the website for schedules, programs, and registration information. victoria.ca/recreation.

Construction in Neighbourhoods

Residents can find information about large construction projects in their neighbourhoods on the City's online map. Engineering and Public Works projects always involve consideration for resident notification. Typically, the larger the scope and longer the duration of the project, the more engagement is undertaken before and during the project. Because of the volume of works that the City undertakes either directly or through contractors, broad public notification cannot be undertaken for all projects. Emergency works may be required, or tasks may be small in scope, of relatively short duration and/or of limited impact. In these cases, staff visit the site and notify all residents and business owners who they believe will be directly impacted by the work (e.g. service interruption, access to property).



<https://vicmap.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3fe72a5ff05a40828456a10d2234bfc2>

Spring Gardening Workshops

Registration opens February 1 for new Growing in the City workshops. The Grow Your Own Food webinar on March 2 is a crash course in veggie growing for beginners who want to start growing their own fresh produce and experienced gardeners who want tips and tricks for success. The Seedling Starting webinar on March 17 will teach you which seeds need to be started indoors, how to start your seeds, how to care for your baby plants, how and



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MY GREAT Neighbourhood

DOWNTOWN

when to harden them off and transplant for maximum harvest. Fruit Tree Pruning 101 on March 26 is an introduction fruit tree pruning in late winter and early spring. Learn more and register at victoria.ca/recreation.

Songhees Park

The completion of the park on the west side of the Johnson Street bridge has begun. Access to the pedestrian and cyclist crossings will be maintained through the construction period. The Vic West Community Association was consulted in 2019 and suggested optimizing trees and green space, landscaping to encourage play and ensuring conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians are minimized.

https://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/residents/parks/our_parks/songhees-park-expansion-project.html



Family Day at Royal Athletic Park

The City of Victoria is hosting a free BC Family Day event at Royal Athletic Park! Activities include family friendly music, activity stations, mini-field soccer, bouncy castle and bocce.

Monday, February 21, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Royal Athletic Park, 1014 Caledonia Ave.



Community Virtuals

Meet us online for the upcoming Community Virtuals lunch and learn series. All sessions are on Wednesdays from noon to 1:30pm. Registration is free at victoria.ca/communityvirtuals.

- Neighbourhood Led Action Plan – a guide for making improvements to your neighbourhood (February 16)
- My Great Neighbourhood Grants – learn more about the grant program as we launch the 2022 program in April (March 16)
- Neighbourhood Traffic Calming – find out how the City considers traffic calming and opportunities for community involvement (April 20)

WHAT'S UP AT COUNCIL?

Special Committee of the Whole	Committee of the Whole (COTW) 9:00 am	Council Meeting 6:30 pm
9:00am to 4:00pm	Council 1:00pm	
February 3, 10, 17, 24	February 3, 10, 17, 24	February 10, 24



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Executive Committee Report – February 2022

We are pleased to confirm the City of Victoria has approved additional funding to the DRA for 2022. This additional amount, \$78,000, will now bring our funding in line with the City's funding of other Neighbourhood Associations. The new funding will increase our capacity as an organization and enable us to better serve the needs of the residents of Downtown.

Much of the work of the Executive team this month focused on reviewing our Key Performance Indicators for 2021, drafting a strategic plan for work in 2022 and creating a budget that helps us meet our goals going forward, and preparing for the upcoming AGM. We also met with the Land Use Committee and Sandra attended a Canadian Urban Institute Webinar.

- **Key Performance Indicators for 2021:** See Excel spreadsheets sent with Agenda

- **2022 strategic plan and budget:**

Drafts have been prepared for discussion by the Board and when finalized will be distributed in with the AGM Notice.

- **AGM:**

The AGM has been set for 6 p.m. on March 22nd by ZOOM. MLA Grace Lore has agreed to be the speaker. We are proposing as a topic of discussion: "What is the provincial government's responsibility to Victoria as a capital city?" Invitations via Eventbrite will go out shortly.

- **Land Use:**

We met with the Land Use Committee to talk about how best to respond to major developments in the Downtown, especially those requesting significant changes and variances in the City's land use planning documents. Discussion included whether and to what extent the terms of reference for the CALUC process impacts the ability of the Land Use Committee to advocate for certain conditions and outcomes in the decisions Council makes on those applications. A question was raised whether the role of the Land Use Committee is limited to commenting only on development applications as they are presented. Also raised was that many developers are using a concerted public relations approach to influence outcomes at the City. The discussion extended to where is it possible to have broader ranging conversations about the kind of Downtown we want to live in? Members of the Committee committed to working with the Executive on developing a survey that will canvass that issue and to develop a plan for greater public engagement. Also, given the significant workload of the Land Use Committee, we discussed the budget for 2022 and the hiring of a Land Use Planning Advisor similar to the support provided by a land use planner in North Park.

- **Canadian Urban Institute Webinar:**

Sandra attended the two-day CUI webinar entitled: "The Summit on the City: Recovering Canada's Downtowns." The online recordings of the event are here:

<https://canurb.org/citysummit/>. Recommended viewing includes the session chaired by Sadhu Johnston, former City Manager of Vancouver, called "Local Government Approaches to Downtown Recovery" on Day 2. One of the things learned is that cities with strong downtown residential populations, like Victoria, have fared better in the recovery from the pandemic than

cities like Calgary which has operated on a commercial/industrial model of bringing people into the downtown at the beginning of the day and spitting them out at the end. Many businesses in that model, rel solely or principally on office workers for their survival, have closed. Calgary is now engaged in a plan to convert many of their office towers into residential spaces so that they can develop a “live, work, play” model for their downtown core.

Urban Livability Committee Report
Victoria Downtown Residents Association
February 08, 2022

Updates

Sub Committee to Support the Unhoused Community

Pandora St. Walkabout - With Heather Murphy.

In January, Michael and Heather, one of the founding members of the Neighbourhood

Solidarity with Unhoused Neighbours (NSUN) group, conducted a Pandora St. walkabout. Both Heather and Michael took the time to chat with some of the unhoused community members during the walkabout and learned about some of the many challenges they face. The experience reinforced the importance of the work done by the organizations and community members who are constantly looking for solutions to tackle this dynamic challenge of providing much-needed help for our unhoused community in Downtown Victoria.

Illicit Drugs Presentation to NSUN Group

Colby Young, the sub-committee lead volunteer to support the unhoused, presented to the NSUN group to discuss illicit drugs in Victoria. In his presentation, Colby discussed the most common drugs found in the Victoria area, alternative names used in the community, typical side effects, and misconceptions about street drugs. His presentation was well-received and gave a different perspective on street drugs.

CASA/Conestoga Hut Project - Update

Colby has attended the CASA/Conestoga Hut project meetings to provide the Urban Livability Committee with updates on the project. CASA built the first Hut (prototype hut) at the Shelbourne Street Church a couple of weeks ago. From this build, the cost of the build came to around \$3,400 (not including labour, as volunteers built it.) A few bulk building materials were leftover that will be used for the second hut project. They also held a community feedback session on January 29. They had 50+ people attend the session, including housing advocates, local government folks, church people, and others. According to CASA, the feedback was very positive. It was noted that they have now received support from the Greater Victoria Coalition to end Homelessness. This week they are looking to build a second hut on someone's private property. They hope to move Alex (the gentlemen featured in a story that inspired the idea to build Conestoga Huts) in this Hut. The next step for the group is to work with the City of Victoria/Saanich to get a Temporary Use Permit or Temporary Bylaw exception. They are also working on their communications strategy and are hoping to streamline the message to promote the need to bring people together, not further divide the unhoused community. Colby (and Michael, if available) will attend on Monday, February 07, 2022. Colby has been told that the project is meant to be a temporary solution to alleviate the challenges of providing adequate shelter and security for our unhoused members during weather emergencies until permanent housing solutions come to fruition for those who are currently unhoused.

Sub Committee: To enhance livability for current and future Downtown Victoria Residents

Jordan, the sub-committee lead to enhance livability for current and future Downtown Victoria Residents, will be working with Darragh to plan a DRA social event. The purpose of the social event is to bring the Downtown Residents community together.

Jordan will begin to brainstorm ideas of social events and will present it to Darragh and the Urban Livability Committee.

Sub-Committee: To enhance Green Space in Downtown Victoria

No current updates to report.

General

The Urban Livability Committee has met with Darragh, the DRA Engagement Coordinator, to plan out several activities for the coming year that are related to Urban Livability. A more detailed update will be included in the next report. In addition, one of the key goals of the committee, is to reach out to the community to find volunteers to join the Committee and other Committees at the DRA. The important work of the DRA would not be possible without its dedicated volunteers and Engagement Coordinator, so the more support we can get through volunteers, the more we can continue the mission of to promote, facilitate, support, or undertake any activity that will enhance the quality of life and environment of the Downtown Community.

2022 FEB Project List for Board Meeting

DRA Land Use Committee

04 FEB 2022

City of Victoria Development Tracker: <https://tender.victoria.ca/webapps/ourcity/prospero/search.aspx>

LUC: Current

1. 780 Blanshard/ BC Electric Building – Reliance Properties – Reliance purchased the heritage art deco building from Robin Kimpton in 2019 for \$14.6m. Pre-CALUC meeting via Zoom on 15 Dec 2021. Reliance proposes to add an 18-storey tower (17F residential + 1F amenity) above the existing 4-storey heritage building (hotel use) with a total FSR 4.6. No on-site parking proposed. The applicant was reminded to limit their presentation to 20 min (30 max) at the CALUC meeting as they spent 45 min during this meeting devoted to preamble. The CALUC meeting will also be in person/hybrid with an online option. Communications have begun w applicant re setting the CALUC meeting for 3rd week Mar 2022.
2. DRA LUC will hold the first in-person PHO compliant committee meeting on Mon 21 Feb 2022 at 5pm. Agenda TBA.
3. 1124 Vancouver – J. Gordon Enterprises – Rezoning and Development Permit with Variance for 6-storey (19.4m) market rental apartment building with 1 level U/G parking, 162 units, 3.62 FSR, 46 parking spots (100 required), 202 bike spots (186 required) with ground floor townhouses (no GF commercial). Alternative CALUC process for public comment closed 30 May 2021. No new CALUC letter will be provided. Approved for Public Hearing at Council 23 Sept 2021. Status: Staff Review of Revised Plans 11 Jan 2022. Will proceed to Public Hearing on 10 Feb 2021.
4. 1221 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, 48.9 m/10 storeys, 144 onsite parking stalls, 117 bike spots. Online alternate CALUC meeting took place on 13 July 2021. Status: Staff Review of Revised Plans 10 Nov 2021. Revised plans posted 13 Jan 2022. CALUC letter submitted 01 Feb 2022. Approved to go to Public Hearing at CotW 03 Feb 2022.
5. 1900 Douglas - Citrus and Cane – Change of Hours of Liquor Service for a Liquor Primary Licence to extend licenced service on Sunday from 12pm to 2am with no change in occupant load of 120 ppl. Current hours are from 12pm-2am Mon to Sat and 11am to 12am Sun. LUC letter submitted 01 Feb 2022.
6. 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 change requires an OCP amendment.
7. 700 Government – Greater Victoria Harbour Authority – Heritage Alteration Permit to remove the Captain Cook statue plinth in the inner harbour. Scheduled for Heritage Advisory Panel 11 Jan 2022. Approved at CotW on 27 Jan 2022.

8. Rapid Deployment of Affordable Housing – Approved to go to Public Hearing on 27 Jan 2022.
9. 517 Herald – (No applicant listed) – Devt Permit application to construct a fenced enclosure at the rear north of the building. No plans posted. Status: Application Review by City 27 Jan 2022.
10. 531 Yates St – Sonora Bar & Grill Mexican Fusion – The City emailed a second notice regarding this operation on 23 Nov 2021. The first application in Sept 2021 was for Public Participation Entertainment for food primary licence with licenced hours of service from 9AM-2AM Mon-Sat and 9AM-12AM Sun with an occupant load of 130 people including a 14-person patio. The DRA LUC submitted a letter of response. The second application is for a NEW Liquor Primary Licence with service from 9AM-2AM daily with the same occupancy. A second LUC letter submitted 14 Jan 2022.
11. 975 Pandora (1468 Vancouver), Seventh Adventist Church – Townline – Rezoning and BP for 121 residential rental units in 4-storey podium and 15-storey (73.05m) + mechanical tower at 5.47:1 FSR with ground floor commercial. Vehicle parking at 116 meets requirements & at 301 bike parking exceeds requirements of 157. There are also 53 storage lockers. CALUC letter submitted Mar 2019 based on 2018 submission. Project went to ADP 25 Nov 2020. No new LUC letter will be submitted at this time. Approved for Public Hearing by Council 20 May 2021. Status: Revised Plans Submitted 24 Nov 2021. Approved at Council on 13 Jan 2022.
12. 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.
13. 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 unit market rental tower with zero vehicle parking and 317 bikes spots on R48 land and located in Fort St Heritage Corridor. Proposed FSR 7.97. The applicant is not proposing to rezone away from the R48 zone but is requesting a height variance. Several setback variances are sought which negatively effect livability. Setbacks have been increased but not yet assessed by the DRA LUC. LUC Letter sent 2 Feb 2020 based on 2019 plan. Went to ADP on 24 Feb 2021. Did not support and noted several design issues. Status: Revised plans posted under Staff Review 11 Jan 2022.
14. 710 Caledonia – Chard/ProvBC - Burnside Gorge LUC has invited DRA LUC members to attend the Zoom meeting on Mon 07 Feb 2022 at 5:30pm.

BC Housing Link: <https://letstalkhousingbc.ca/victoria-1961-douglas>

<https://www.timescolonist.com/local-news/big-project-pitched-for-whitespot-site-on-douglas-lower-cost-housing-in-towers-offices-grocery-restaurant-shops-large-public-plaza-4935251>

15. Note: Approval of these applications 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 the Chard development at 848 Yates St and identified in DCAP as part of the pedestrian network.
 - a. 845 Yates – Chard – Development Permit with Variance application for modifications to the through-block walkway and the terms of the Statutory Right-of-Way. A Variance to the Fence Bylaw is required to increase the height of the gates from 1.83m to 2.59m. Application Received and under Review by City 22 July 2021. With the understanding that there was new information from applicant it was referred to 03 Feb 2022 daytime Council meeting. Status: The application was not included on the 03 Feb 2022 agenda.
 - b. 836 Yates – Devt Permit w Variance and Heritage Alteration w Variance to install a new fence and gate. Council declined the HAV on 09 Dec 21. The DP w Variance is still active on the City’s Devt Tracker.

LUC: Ongoing and Active

1. 1310-1312 Douglas – Delegated Heritage Alteration Permit – Reviewed by Heritage Advisory Panel on 14 Dec 2021. Request to install an accordion style gate across one of the recessed entryways in response to issues related to social issues/folks sleeping in the alcove, etc. The owner’s representative indicated that the current tenant, concerned for their safety, etc., had indicated that they would move if a solution was not found. The panel referenced the guidelines for fencing, gates, etc. and expressed concerns about the role that these types of interventions play in creating the impression that the downtown is a gated fortress. Staff were asked to continue to work with the applicant in developing a solution that would be in compliance with the guidelines.
2. 579-585 Johnson St – Hartwig Industries w Studio 531 architects – Heritage Alteration Permit with Variance (previously DPwV) 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 47 bike parking proposed (48 required). Proposed density is 2.63:1. Revised Plans submitted 12 Dec 2021. Status: Application Review by City 08 Dec 2021. Declined by both HAPL and ADP at their final meetings in 2021.
3. 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.
4. City of Victoria Noise Bylaw Review – Staff report sharing staff’s preliminary review and seeking Council direction on the next steps. Staff evaluated enforcement challenges and noise-related complaints at daytime Council 09 Dec 2021.
5. 1030 Fort – Jawl Properties w Cascadia Architecture – Rezoning 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. Status: Staff Review of Revised Plans 03 Dec 2021.
6. 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. Status: Application Review by City Complete and With Applicant 01 Dec 2021.
 7. 1620 Blanshard, Gateway Green – Tri-Eagle & Jawl Residential – Temporary Use Permit to demolish the two-storey commercial building and provide 62 surface parking spaces. Staff recommendation to decline the TUP. In May 2021 the building on the site was demolished and the property is now fenced off. No other applications or notices have been filed or sent regarding the future of this lot. Status: Property is for sale as of Dec 2021.
 8. Reported on 01 Nov 2021 by Parks Director, Thomas Soulliere, during the 2022 Draft Financial Plan discussions that a deliverable in 2022 by the Parks Department may include the development of a new playground in the Downtown area, although no site has been identified.
 9. DCAP Review – City Staff-led stakeholder engagement process. Ian has outlined many of the DRA LUC concerns regarding gaps and priorities. Draft DCAP Design Guidelines April 2021 circulated by staff on 13 April 2021. DRA priorities focused on livability shortcomings in the existing DCAP including increased tower separation, increased rear yard setbacks, limits to the number of towers per city block and minimum lot sizes for towers. Public feedback closed 07 May 2021. Final Draft and Report to Council coming November 2021.
 10. 1205 Quadra/911 Yates – Starlight – Rezoning and OCP Amendment 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. Proposal includes: 5-storey podium with 28, 29 and 32 storey towers with a 6:1 FSR. Advisory Design Panel declined to support on 13 Jan 2021. ADP comments and concerns include: More consideration of materiality and richness and variation in the towers. Repetitive nature and sameness of towers-looks like Vancouver. Breaking up of podium. Horizontal ‘sameness’. Variety in podium height. Providing access to ‘public’ space amenity. The question was posed, ‘Tell me what is beautiful about this proposal. What will Victorians love about it? Approved by 5-4 at CotW on Thurs 15 Jul 2021 to go to Public Hearing if the developer meets several conditions, including, but not limited to: increasing affordable units to at least 15 per cent (with at least 33 per cent during the first phase of development), increasing the number of two- and three-bedroom units, ensuring the public plaza is mostly “park-like green space,” providing five per cent accessible units

and securing at least 450 sqm for childcare space. Status: Approved at CotW for Public Hearing on 28 Oct 2021.

11. 1900 Store – Reliance Properties w D’Ambrosio – Rezoning to construct mixed use area to include light industrial, marine related uses, commercial, residential, live/work, arts & cultural uses, etc and new publicly accessible open spaces. 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. Status: No plans have been posted to the Development Tracker (as of 09 Oct 2021).
12. Chatham St/533 Chatham/530 Herald/532 Herald - Development Permit application for a new commercial building. No plans posted online. No information re developer but unless the property has been sold, it stands to reason that the applicant is Chris Lefevre. These properties were originally approved for the residential building referred to as Iron Works 2. Posted on the Devt Tracker 25 Jun 2021 and Application Review by City as of 20 July 2021.
13. 539 Fisgard St – Salient Group - Heritage Alteration Permit for interior and exterior upgrades and renovations for 3 amalgamated buildings facing Fisgard (Lee Mong Kow Bldg, Sheam & Low Bldg) and Fan Tan Alley (Sing Lee Bldg) and includes the back patio. Scope of work includes many components. Status: Revised plans posted and Staff Review of Revised Plans as of 14 Jul 2021.
14. 700 Douglas, Bus Depot – Bosa with James KM Cheng – Rezoning to construct long-term rental with ground floor commercial. Staff review of revised plans completed 4 Oct 2019 and remains With Applicant. A CALUC meeting has yet to take place for this project. There is a Land Use Covenant on property but it’s not clear what obligations are included. Will need to follow up with staff/applicant as this project proceeds. Status: Bus Depot building has been demolished as of July 2021.
15. 1244 Wharf – Salient Group – Heritage Alteration Permit 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.
16. 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-storey podium with 19 & 21 storey towers with a 6:1 FSR. Rental for 510 residential units, including 6 (3BDRM) townhouses and 436 onsite parking stalls & 654-bike parking. Advisory Design Panel declined to support on 13 Jan 2021. ADP comments and concerns include: More consideration of materiality and richness and variation in the towers. Repetitive nature and sameness of towers - looks like Vancouver. Breaking up of podium. Horizontal ‘sameness’. Variety in podium height. Providing access to ‘public’ space amenity. The question was posed, “Tell me what is beautiful about this proposal? What will Victorians love about it?” A major concern was expressed that the panel was expected to vet the proposal against an attached ‘Design Manual’ that has been prepared by the applicant. ADP had not previously reviewed the

- manual nor had it been endorsed by Council. The Panel made a statement to the effect that they were not considering the manual and not vetting the application in relation to it. Revised plans submitted as of 11 Mar 2021. Status: To be scheduled for CotW.
17. 777 Broughton – Development Variance Permit application to install signage in Old Town. Status: Application Submitted and under Review by City 01 Mar 2021.
 18. 550 Pandora – Chinese Freemasons Housing Society & M’akola Devt Services with architect Alan Lowe – Rezoning with an OCP Amendment (OCP Amendment not listed on the Devt Tracker) for a 5-storey, 36-unit affordable-housing rental apartment building with 2 ground-floor commercial retail units. Proposed 3.62 FSR above 3.0 permitted with height of 16.17m above 15m permitted. Proposal includes 44 Class 1 bike spots required but not the 6 Class 2. Creation of affordable housing units will be funded by BC Housing but operated by Chinese Freemasons Housing Society. Status: Staff Review of Revised Plans 11 Sept 2020. Pre-CALUC meeting held on 15 Oct 2020. CALUC letter to be written and sent. The 30-day opportunity for public comment opened on Devt Tracker on 07 Dec 2020. City notifications were not sent out in a timely manner to meet the deadline, so they sent out a revised notice and the deadline for public comment was extended to 22 Jan 2021. A member of the public started a petition against this proposal on 14 Jan 21 and has garnered +2300 signatures and counting. Status: Staff Review complete and now With Applicant as of 15 Jan 2021. CALUC letter to be written and sent if project proceeds.
 19. 535 Yates – Five Star Permits – Development Variance Permit application to vary the sign bylaw. The Sign By-Law for Old Town prohibits signage about the sill of the second storey of buildings. The intent is to avoid a proliferation of signs on the facades of historic buildings. 30-day notice period for comment ended 04 Nov 2020. Letter submitted 23 Oct 2020. Declined unanimously at CotW 27 Nov 2020.
 20. 1010 Fort St – Abstract Developments – Rezoning for the development of a 13-storey building with ground floor commercial and 55 residential above with 7 vehicle parking and 97 bike parking spots. Proposed FSR 5.37. CALUC letter submitted 1 Oct 2019. Status: Council on 2 July 2020. Referred back to staff to work with the applicant for possible 6-storey condo that complies with city requirements (heritage, planning, etc) with request from Council to pay the \$250k to affordable housing fund (a commitment made re Bellewood Park project) before 31 Dec 2020 deadline.
 21. 777 Herald, Hudson Place One – Townline – Development Variance Permit for a height variance from the previously approved plans. Note: This project was granted a 3m height variance in 2018. Construction of this building is nearing completion. Status: Review by City Complete and With Applicant 27 Mar 2020.
 22. On 04 Jul 2019 at Committee of the Whole, Council unanimously passed the recommendation “That Council consider as part of the 2020 budget discussions the allocation of some new assessed revenue for parks and green space acquisition and amenities in neighbourhoods where development is occurring.”

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – FEBRUARY 2022

1. EVENTS/ACTIVITIES:

- The draft 2022 Strategic Plan including proposed CEC events and activities has been prepared and is to be discussed by the Board.
- In celebration of Black History Month, books on black history will be purchased from a downtown bookstore and distributed to the Little Libraries located downtown.
- “HOW DOES IT FEEL?” workshop to be held Tuesday, February 15 at 6 pm at The Dock (300, 722 Cormorant Street). This free workshop, presented in conjunction with the Existence Project (and with support from a City of Victoria *My Great Neighbourhood Grant*), will examine trauma's influence on the nervous system and brain, and discover just how it feels from a person with lived experience of homelessness.
- As our monthly event for March, we will be participating in the SF Victoria Francophone Day in Bastion Square on Saturday, March 19. We will have a booth, with children's activities during the day and more adult oriented activities in the evening. Volunteers are welcome to come out and support us in planning and/or on the day of the event, in the booth and/or activities.
- Dianne plans to attend the February 16 City of Victoria “*Community Virtuals: Neighbourhood Led Action Plan Guide*”. Others are welcome to also attend, but pre-registration is required.

2. WELCOME PACKAGE FOR NEW RESIDENTS:

DRA promotional materials to welcome and connect with new residents to the downtown are still in the development stage. When the materials are in a final draft stage they will be circulated to the Board for review and comments. First distribution will be to residents of newly constructed buildings, with subsequent reach out to all new residents as they can be identified.

Communications and Membership Committee Report – February 2022

Update on Committee activities:

- **Newsletter / Other Communications to Members:**
 - The January newsletter was issued on January 15. Statistics from Mail Chimp indicate that it was opened by 44.8% of subscribers, lower than our average of 46.6%. The items most frequently clicked on were development projects updates for 780 Blanshard and 1124 Vancouver, and the How Does It Feel event at the Dock. We intend to put together a newsletter next week and welcome contributions from Board members.

- **Web site**
 - Darragh added a new section to our website “The Neighbourhood”. It includes information on our neighbourhood and its history, resident resources and community plans, also maps and lots of great photos. Check it out <https://www.victoriadra.ca/about-the-neighbourhood>
 - We continue to add posts to the News page and add events to the Events page of our new website.

- **Social Media**
 - We continue to actively post on social media
 - The number of posts over the past month, and the current number of followers are:
 - Facebook - 12 posts, 861 followers, 52 post engagements
 - Instagram - 3 posts, 362 followers
 - Twitter - 2 tweets, 1108 followers, 438 Tweet impressions
 - You can help grow our social media presence by sharing our post with your followers.

- **Other**
 - **no** new members since the last report.

Submitted by
Doug Boyd
Chair, Communications and Membership Committee

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

February, 2022

1. **2022 AGM:**
 - a. **See attached planning document for details.**
 - b. **See attached draft special resolution** be presented at the AGM, to amend the DRA Bylaws to permit a limited number of non-residents to be elected as Board members.

2. **Monthly Board Meeting Procedures — Land acknowledgement:** The Committee wants to add a land acknowledgement to the agenda, and want to make it meaningful and more than simply pro forma. If you have any suggestions or thoughts on this, please send them to the committee chair. **Still being worked on.**

3. **Building Board Diversity:** Dianne attended a Volunteer Victoria workshop on this topic and is still working on this. Board members are asked to identify any possible organizations or groups, or any potential Board members, that that we can reach out to.

4. **Board orientation protocol and package:** Developing a package is still in the very beginning stage of that work. Hopefully Darragh or a Board member will be able to attend an upcoming Volunteer Victoria workshop on creating a Board manual. The goal is to have a new package ready for any new Board members elected at the 2022 AGM.

5. **Grant funding opportunities:** Darragh is monitoring possible grant funding opportunities. If Board members are aware of any grant possibilities, or have projects they want to pursue if grant funding is available, they are asked to let Dianne and Darragh know.

2022 AGM PLANNING PROPOSAL, FOR BOARD APPROVAL

Date: Tuesday, March 22 Time: 6:00 pm. Location: By Zoom

Guest speaker: Victoria MLA Grace Lore (Topic: The Responsibility of the Province to Victoria as the Capital City?) (To be confirmed)

Registration will be by Event Brite

Confirm current Board member terms:

- **Expiring at the 2023 AGM - Doug, Ian, Nicholas**
- **Expiring at the 2024 AGM - Dianne, Sandra, Michael**

Nominations for new Board members:

- **Colby Young**
- **from the floor?**

Agenda to include:

- **approving 2021 minutes**
- **2022 financial report**
- **committee reports on last year's activities**
- **strategic plan (highlights)**
- **special resolution to be approved prior to nominations and election of new Board members* (note order of agenda)**

Other: Quorum is seven Voting Members, votes are oral or by a show of hands (unless a secret ballot is requested)

Official Notice: by email to members no later than March 8

- **must include notice of the special resolution re Board members**
- **should include or link to**
 - **2021 AGM minutes**
 - **2021 financial report**
 - **committee reports on last year's activities**
 - **highlights of 2022 strategic plan**

Other notices to be given by social media (Darragh will be preparing a media plan)

DRAFT, FEBRUARY 8, 2022

Victoria Downtown Residents Association

NOTICE OF SPECIAL RESOLUTION

To: The Members of the Victoria Downtown Residents Association

TAKE NOTICE that a special resolution will be proposed as part of the Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Association, to be held on Tuesday, the 22nd day of March, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., by Zoom. (Details on the Zoom meeting may be found on the VDRA website set out below.)

The text of the **SPECIAL RESOLUTION** is as follows:

1) That Section 5.5 “Nominations of Directors” of the Bylaws of the Victoria Downtown Residents Association, which reads as follows:

Nominations of Directors

5.5 Only Voting Members of the Association shall be allowed to be Members of the Board.

be deleted and replaced with the following:

Nominations of Directors

5.5.1 A person must be a Member of the Association in order to be nominated for election as a Director of the Board.

5.5.2 A maximum of three Non-Voting Members may be elected as Directors of the Board at any time, which number includes any Non-Voting Members that may be appointed as Directors under 5.7, and providing that at all times the majority of the Directors of the Board shall be Voting Members.

5.5.3 If the number of Non-Voting nominated exceeds the permissible number set in 5.5.2

(a) only the permissible number of Non-Voting Directors may be elected, even if a Non-Voting nominee receives more votes than a Voting Member nominee, and

(b) the permissible number of Non-Voting nominee(s) who receive the most votes will be declared elected.

2) That the amended Constitution and Bylaws of the Association be registered in accordance with the Societies Act, SBC 2015, c. 18.

Date of Notice: March 8, 2022

NOTES:

The effect of this change is to allow a limited number of Non-Voting Members (those who do not reside in the Downtown Neighbourhood) to stand for election as a Director, while providing that the majority of the Directors of the Board shall be Voting Members (who do reside in the Downtown Neighbourhood).

The intent of this change is to allow for broader Board diversity, while retaining the nature of the Association as representing the interests of those persons who actually reside in the Downtown Neighbourhood.

The full text of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association is available on the Association's website at: <https://www.victoriadra.ca/mission-statement>

VCAN REPORT FEBRUARY 2022

1. The DRA has been invited to sign on to the attached letter to Minister Eby, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing, calling on the Province to take action to protect the existing, aging affordable rental stock in order to reduce the occurrence of renovictions and rental increases after renovations.

More information can be found at:

Council member motion: <https://pub-victoria.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=76482>

Vic News article: <https://www.saanichnews.com/news/victoria-wants-b-c-to-regulate-rent-increases-between-tenancies/?fbclid=IwAR0A3jevWfjB9oOiBBxkhsbDPANokfUxBGmEAHwmkCQLOzD05-EzIp7lXK4>

2. **Mike Hill presented the attached chart of the requests that Neighbourhood Associations made to Council on the question of how Council could be supportive. As you can see, the most popular one was the City providing access to the mailing lists/doing a mail drop to promote Neighbourhood Associations. It looks like the Engagement Team is may be taking that on. No timeline at present but we should have it on our radar.**

DRAFT VCAN LETTER

MLA: Hon. David Eby, Q.C.
Room 232 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca
david.eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca
(250) 387-1866

Date: January 2022
cc: Victoria Community Association Network

Attn: Minister Eby, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing

We are an umbrella group representing community associations in Victoria, BC. We pay close attention to land use issues in our various neighbourhoods.

We are all aware of the housing crisis, particularly the lack of affordable housing. While the Province of BC is providing funding to build much needed new affordable housing, we are currently losing much of our existing older affordable rental housing stock. Most of the existing rental apartment buildings in our neighbourhoods were built 1974-79 under the MURB program, which provided tax incentives to build rental buildings.

From Victoria Housing Strategy Annual Review 2020

The existing rental housing stock is aging. The retention of aging stock and the development of new purpose-built rental housing is integral for ensuring sufficient rental supplies for Victoria's current and future population.

Currently many of these aging, privately owned rental buildings are being purchased by Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs). Several major companies have been leading these purchases, with two companies owning over 50 buildings in Greater Victoria. Other major REITs are also starting to show interest in the Victoria market.

While the experience with REITs is different based on the location and the specific company/trust, data from recent years indicates that they may negatively impact the affordability of older rental stock.

Some REITs maximize their profits by either renovating tenants or by renovating units as tenants move out and increasing the rents dramatically. This article by a University of Waterloo Professor explains the issues and suggests policy options: Institute for Research on Public Policy June 2021. More locally, the Community Social Planning Research Council report "Can't Go and Can't Stay" states that "renovictions and demovictions are a significant factor contributing to rental

housing instability” (pg. 16).

We believe that proactive steps should be taken now in order to further protect older rental housing to maintain its affordability.

There are several policy directions that the Victoria Community Association Network is hoping the provincial government will consider urgently.

- Create a provincial grant program to allow existing non-profit housing providers to purchase aging rental buildings directly from private owners. This grant acknowledges that non-profit housing providers do not have the same access to the capital that REITs do, and are missing out on opportunities to purchase these buildings.
 - Create a provincial grant program that allows existing non-profit housing providers to undergo necessary upgrades and renovations on aging rental buildings wherever demolition can be avoided. New construction costs are rising rapidly and the number of newly built affordable units cannot keep up with what is required to provide necessary affordable units.
 - Introduce provincial or municipal policy that would give government and/or non-profit housing providers the right of first refusal on privately owned rental buildings coming up for sale. This is being done in Montreal. [Right of First Refusal CBC Feb 2021](#)

Greater Victoria Harbour Authority Community Liaison Committee

Report submitted by Doug Boyd for the February 2022 Board Meeting

The DRA was invited to send one delegate to represent the association on the newly developed Greater Victoria Harbour Authority Community Liaison Committee (GVHA CLC). I volunteered to represent the DRA. Committee members include representatives from the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, CRD, COV, Town of Esquimalt, DVBA, GVCC, Destination GV, Victoria Cruise Industry Alliance, Victoria Esquimalt Harbour Society, Western Stevedoring (the company that services the cruise ships), and two community members at large.

I attended the 3rd CLC meeting on February 2. The CLC received presentations from the Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA), an advocacy organization for the cruise industry, and from Fair Sailing, an initiative by the James Bay Neighbourhood Association (JBNA) to advocate for responsible cruise tourism practices. If you would like to view the soles of either presentation, please contact me.

The Transportation Sub-Committee, which I am a member of, met on February 2. We discussed these key issues:

- Taxis servicing the cruise terminal and concerns from nearby residents about speeding. The City has reduced speed limits and installed speed bumps on Montreal Street.
- The City has determined a new location for the shuttle bus, on Government Street, across from Trounce Alley, and a revised routing for the busses. If you would like further information on this, including a routing map, please contact me. The sub-committee is planning to have a survey of businesses and residents to gather feedback on the successes and/or challenges of the new location midway through the season.

The GVHA anticipates 350 calls beginning with the first ship in two years in a Canadian port on April 6. The GVHA is planning a media event for that date.

The next CLC meeting is scheduled for March 2. Please advise me if there are any items you wish me to raise with the committee.



Clean & Safe Committee

RE: Clean & Safe Committee

Report by: Darragh De Groot, Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator.

Thursday, January 27th the Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator (NEC) met with the Clean & Safe Committee hosted by the Downtown Victoria Businesses Association (DVBA).

The primary discussion was setting expectations of the committee, and establishing the terms of reference (mission and vision). Many of the current committee members hold business relationships to downtown, and are COV employees, bringing those needed perspectives to the discussion.

The next meeting is set for February 15th to confirm the committee's Terms of reference, how the committee will report to Council, coordinate the committee's data collection, and looking for additional members. The DRA may want to suggest new members join the committee that can add residents' perspectives to the discussion as well as other diverse peoples of the neighbourhood (unhoused residents of downtown). Colly Young, of the DRA Urban Livability Committee, is interested in joining and has reached out to DVBA to express interest.

Additional news is that the downtown has a new Community Resource Officer, Lisa Forcier. Further inquiries with VicPD should be directed to Lisa.

Attached is the current draft of the Mission etc. of the committee that will go to Council.



Clean & Safe Committee

Victoria Downtown Clean and Safe Committee

Terms of Reference 2022

In the current City of Victoria Council Strategic Plan was a call for the formation of a Downtown Clean and Safe Committee. The DVBA was identified as the lead partner in this action.

In December 2021 the inaugural meeting of this Committee occurred (virtually). The initial Committee is comprised of the following members:

Jeff Bray – Executive Director DVBA (Convenor)
Rob Caunter – DVBA Clean Team Manager
Darragh De Groot – Engagement Coordination DRA
Quinn Anglin – City of Victoria
Mike Hill – City of Victoria
VicPD (Downtown Liaison officer)
Geoff Young - Council Rep for DVBA/DRA
John Tomchick – Jawl Properties
Darlene Holstein – GM Bay Centre
Stef Hartwig – DVBA Board Member and Hartwig Industries

At this initial meeting it was determined that a Terms of Reference should be developed. The following is proposed:

Vision: Downtown Victoria is perceived by the region's population as a safe and orderly place to live, work, shop, dine, visit and enjoy.

Mission: To meet and identify current challenges; provide Council data as to what is currently happening downtown; provide guidance and solutions for Council to act on deal with identified issues and make Downtown clean and safe and welcoming for all.

The Committee with work toward this by:

- Meeting quarterly
- Collate data, stats, observations on both negative and positive activities occurring downtown
- Focusing on local issues and actions the City can reasonably undertake and recommending actions on the smaller issues the City is capable delivering
- Understanding the bigger issues that may be in play (housing, addiction, mental illness) and identifying who should advocate solutions to other levels of government but
- Collect and disseminate good news stories
- Identify things that are working and things that can be improved
- More members may be asked to join this Committee to enhance effectiveness
- **Present a quarterly report to Council**