

DRA Board Meeting Agenda
July 18, 2023
Location: Tug Eatery (in-person)
Time: 5:30 p.m.

Present:

Board members: Sandra Severs (President), Doug Boyd, Michael Demakiling, Dianne Flood, Dawn Moorhead, Sherry Lee, Jordan Royer, Ian Sutherland, Jeremy Zhao,

DRA Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator: James Davis

City Council Liaison: Dave Thompson

City Staff: Mike Hill

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

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

- City council voted to begin moving people from Topaz Park, Hollywood Park and Regatta Point Park to available housing due to passing of bylaw for camping ban for several parks. City is in the process of identifying additional parks which will be subject to this bylaw in the future.
- 722 / 726 / 910 Discovery St. and 710 Caledonia St. – development proposed amenities including mid-block crosswalk
- 1039 / 1043 Meares St.- a new building proposed next to the 6-storey BC Housing accommodation of youth
- Path to End Homelessness key messages: Dave Thompson invited DRA to review and provide feedback
 - o **ACTION:** Sandra to forward Key Messages document for board members to review.
- Amendment to Requests to Address Council Policy: approved motion to consider limitation on the number of times an individual may address council in a 3-month period and a limitation of 3 minutes per address. The amendment responds to Governance Report re. efficiency and aligns City of Victoria policy more closely with other jurisdictions.

5:50 p.m. Downtown Update: Mike Hill (report attached)

Additional updates/discussions:

- Council has been working through their terms of reference policies for advisory and standing committees. Work is continuing on the recommendations from the Governance Review and changes are being implemented over the term of Council.

5:55 p.m. Follow-up from the Prior Minutes:

ACTION: Dianne will arrange for those interested board member orientation in July/August 2023. Update: interest is limited, Dianne will consider arranging information session for DRA committees.

6:00 p.m. Executive Report: Sandra (report attached)

- 1)Book-keeping

DECISION: DRA Board authorized Sandra and Doug to seek quotations on potential contracted bookkeeping services for DRA financial tracking.

ACTION: Sandra and Doug to seek quotations.

- 2)Customer relationship management (CRM) system for tracking committee engagement

DECISION: DRA Board approved to begin research for a CRM system for DRA.

ACTION: Committees to provide input on desirable system requirements.

- 3)Membership promotion: Board discussed strategies to promote DRA membership at sponsored events, such as the Queer community-related events. Strategy put forward includes embedding DRA messaging on membership at the sponsored events.

- 4)Support for Indigenous rights/decolonization conversation: Given the change in our mission statement, what do we need to do moving forward?

ACTION: Sandra/Dawn/James to research and bring forward information for Board discussion in September.

6:10 p.m. Standing Committee Reports – Q and A

- **Urban Livability Committee (ULC) and Urban Ecology and Agriculture Committee (UEC):** Michael/Colby (report attached)

- **Communications and Membership Committee (CMC):** Doug (report attached)

- **Governance Committee:** Dianne (no report)

- **Land Use Committee (LUC):** Ian/Jordan (report attached)

- OCP revision preliminary review

DECISION: DRA Board approved Sandra/Doug, in consultation with Jordan/Ian, to spend up to \$10k to hire a consultant to review and provide input to OCP review including early and multiple identification of priorities.

- **Community Engagement Committee (CEC):** James (report attached)

- Planning for Truth and Reconciliation Day 2023: members discussed promotion of Indigenous-led events and DRA membership through subsidizing event tickets for DRA members.

ACTION: James to research event opportunities.

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

- **Victoria Community Association Network (VCAN):** Sandra/Ian (report attached)

- **900 Pandora Good Neighbour Group:** Sandra (report attached)

- **Late Night Advisory Committee (LNAC):** Sandra (no report)
- **Greater Victoria Harbour Authority Community Liaison Committee:**
Doug (no report)
- **DVBA Clean and Safe Committee:** Colby/Sandra (no report)

7:30 p.m. Meeting concludes

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 5:30pm

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT - JULY 2023

Strategic Planning – The mission, vision and values document has been revised and is now posted on the website.

Capacity Building – In line with the discussion at the strategic planning session, work has begun on capacity building for the organization.

- James is exploring the Gaming Grant procedure and determining what whether we would be eligible to apply for gaming grant funds.
- Grant money from the City has been received for both the Base Grant (\$10k) and the expanded funding which was designated to support NPNA and the DRA. This amount of \$78k includes funding to support the Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator position.
- Given the increase in financial resources, contracting the part-time services of a bookkeeper is being explored. This will help us standardize our financial record keeping in line with best practices for non-profits and lessen the load on volunteer labour for record keeping. Doug and Sandra will retain control over the payment of bills for the organization.
- Evaluation of our current methods of tracking participation of residents is also being explored. Currently we are using MailChimp to maintain our contact list but we don't have strategic and effective ways of engaging beyond providing information on social media. We are exploring the purchase of CRM software to help us build our base of support.

Support for Queer Open Mic

Sara Rose, a local queer musician who has played in our summer concert series, has been the organizer of this successful ongoing event held at theDock. Up until this time, they have done this in a volunteer capacity. Recognizing the amount of work it takes to organize this monthly event and in an effort to both support and encourage the expansion of this program, we would like to offer Sara Rose a 10 hour per month contract @\$30/hour.

Meeting with Katherine Frances from SOLID -Katherine is a staff person from SOLID and employed as one of the Community Caretakers for the 900 Block of Pandora. Sandra met with Katherine to talk about the current situation on the street and to understand what might be in store for folk this Fall with the closure of several city parks to camping. The effect of banning policies by a number of facilities and the lack of access to washroom and showers on the block remain ongoing concerns.

**Urban Livability Committee Report
&
Urban Ecology and Agriculture Committee Report**
Victoria Downtown Residents Association
July 18, 2023

Co-Chairs: Colby Young and Michael Demakiling

Committee Members: James Davis (DRA Community Engagement Coordinator), Dawn Moorehead, Hannah Munn, Kevan Coyle, Lynn Feasey, Naomi Lyons, and Michael

Urban Livability Report

Introduction

As we move forward into the summer months, the Urban Livability Committee (ULC) has been busy participating in community events and projects. One of the highlights of our recent activities was our involvement in the Victoria Pride Parade. It was an exciting and meaningful experience for all who participated, and we were proud to show our support for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

This report will also provide an update on the bench project. As you may recall, this initiative was started to create a welcoming and comfortable space for residents to gather and enjoy the outdoors.

As we continue to work towards making our community a better place, the ULC is exploring the possibility of launching a special project focused on decolonization/allyship. This would involve learning and taking action to support Indigenous people and other marginalized groups in our community. We believe this is an important initiative.

Victoria Pride Week

The Victoria Downtown Resident's Association (DRA) joined the 2023 Victoria Pride Parade on July 9th. Our aim was to promote acceptance and support for the queer community. It's vital that we all stand up for the inclusion and rights of all individuals, regardless of their gender identity or sexual orientation. The parade was a joyous celebration of diversity and inclusion. It served as a reminder that everyone has the right to love and be loved. In the future, we hope to see more people join in and show their support for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. Let's continue to spread this message of love and acceptance!

Pandora Bench Project

We received feedback from Katherine Francis on the seating project, which requires us to revisit the Pandora Bench project. The current project has certain issues with bylaws and space, and it's not possible to advocate much for it. SOLID has other opportunities for programs. Perhaps our new approach is to review the progress of ongoing city actions and search for alternative ways to improve access to seating, water, and bathrooms.

Action on decolonization/allyship to the board

The committee is currently working on multiple projects, which presents an excellent opportunity to propose a special project to the board. Dawn has expressed interest in being a part of this project. The first step would be to develop a strategy as an association to demonstrate our solidarity, allyship, or support for the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations. We can take various actions, such as removing invasive plants on the Songhees reserve with Habitat Acquisition Trust ("HAT"). The committee wishes to discuss this further with the DRA board during the next board meeting on July 18, 2023.

In Summary

The Victoria Pride Parade saw the Urban Livability Committee supporting and promoting acceptance for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. The committee updated on the Pandora Bench project and is looking into alternative ways to enhance seating, water, and bathroom access. Additionally, the ULC proposes a project highlighting decolonization/allyship to demonstrate their solidarity with Indigenous people and other marginalized groups in the community. The committee will discuss the project further with the DRA board during the upcoming board meeting.

Urban Ecology and Agriculture Report

Introduction

In the latest Urban Ecology and Agriculture (UEA) Report, we are excited to share the wonderful activities that took place in June. The month was filled with engaging events, including a pollinator kids walk, a seed bombing activity, and a Q&A with Pollinator Partnership Canada's Dr. Lora Morandin. These events provided a great opportunity for community members to learn more about the importance of urban ecology and sustainable agriculture. Additionally, the Yates Street Community Garden (YSCG) and the Victoria Downtown Residents Association (DRA) held their 3rd annual Blossom Your Pride Event, which allowed residents to create their very own "Pride Bouquet" and enjoy a delicious Pride Donut in the community garden. It was a fantastic way to participate in Victoria Pride Week while promoting community involvement and environmental awareness.

Updates

Yates Street Community Garden (YSCG) Report

Waitlist

June Report: 202 people

As of July 16, 2023: 212 people

Blossom Your Pride Event

The Blossom Your Pride event was a huge success! On Saturday, July 08, 2023, residents gathered at the garden to create their unique bouquet of flowers to celebrate Pride. The event was made even more special by the generous contributions of Mayan Vered of Flower Face, a local florist, who provided the beautiful flowers, and Empire Donuts, who provided delicious Pride doughnuts. The turnout was fantastic, with lots of happy and vibrant participants. It was a wonderful opportunity for the community to come together and celebrate love and acceptance.

Pollinator Week - June 19-25

During Pollinator Week, the Yates Street Community Garden organized various activities. One of the events was an exciting tour for children, led by Janet Strauss, a long-time member of YSCG, of the indigenous bee apiary and pollinator gardens in the community garden. Another activity allowed residents to come to the garden and make their own seed bombs while collecting some seeds. Lastly, Dr. Lora Morandin hosted an educational

event where participants could learn about urban pollinators and their impact on the urban landscape. All three events were successful, and residents gained a better understanding and appreciation of urban pollinators in Downtown Victoria.

Victoria CoolKit

On a beautiful sunny day, the Victoria Coolkit group met at the community garden for the 3rd of the three workshops to discuss their efforts toward creating Downtown Victoria's Second Community Garden, assist city staff on a retrofit pilot project, and prioritize future group climate action. The group has decided to continue their work by meeting monthly and brainstorming their next project, which will focus on how we can lobby on retrofitting existing buildings to move away from the use of fossil fuels and enhance the urban green canopy. The Victoria Coolkit, along with the UEA and the YSCG, will begin their community engagement process for the second downtown community garden through an informative and open-discussion open house at the Yates Street Community Garden on Saturday, August 05, 2023, from 10 AM to 12 PM.

In Summary

It is clear that the community garden is becoming increasingly popular, as evidenced by the waitlist, which has grown to 212 people. The Yates Street Community Garden in Downtown Victoria has hosted several successful events, including the Blossom Your Pride event, Pollinator Week, and the Victoria CoolKit workshops. The events have brought residents together to celebrate love and acceptance, learn about urban pollinators, and discuss ways to enhance the urban green canopy. The Victoria Coolkit group is now focusing on lobbying for retrofitting existing buildings to move away from the use of fossil fuels. The community engagement process for the second downtown community garden will begin with an open house at the Yates Street Community Garden on August 5th.

Communications and Membership Committee Report – July 2023

Update on Committee activities:

- **Newsletter / Other Communications to Members:**
 - The June newsletter was issued on June 21. Statistics from Mail Chimp indicate that it was opened by 40.1% of subscribers. The items receiving the highest number of clicks were the City of Victoria Development Tracker and the City of Victoria Guide to Festivals and other Cultural Activities.
 - We also sent these emails to our subscribers:
 - Call for members to join us at the Pride Parade, sent on July 5.
 - Information our Music In the Park event, sent on June 27.
 - We intend to put together a newsletter by July 19 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.
 - 568 site sessions over the past month (up 69% from the previous month). The most viewed posts were the Music in the Park event and Events and Programs update.

- **Social Media**
 - The number of posts over the past month, and the current number of followers are:
 - Facebook - 12 posts, 1027 followers
 - Instagram - 5 posts, 825 followers
 - Twitter - 3 tweets, 1156 followers

- **Other**
 - 1 new member since the last report
 - 22 new newsletter subscribers since the last report

Submitted by
Doug Boyd
Chair, Communications and Membership Committee

**Land Use Committee Report – For Board Meeting
17 July 2023**

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

Current

1. 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: Declined at council meeting at 26th of May, referred back to staff on June 9th.

2. 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.

3. Delegating Minor Variance

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

4. 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**

1. 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.**

2. 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**

3. 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: **Applicant revising submission starting April 27**

2. 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.**

3. 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.**

4. 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. **Waiting for applicant book meeting space and set date for CALUC meeting.**

5. 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

4. 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
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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,

6

7. 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 May20th.

8. 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 June15th

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. 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 June2021.

14. 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.

15. 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.

16. 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.

17. 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.

19. 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. 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 Apr 2022.

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 – JULY 2023

1. Recent activities:

Music in the Park: The first event in our series of free summer concerts in Downtown Parks took place on June 28th in Cridge Park. The concert featured performances by three artists who have performed at the Queer Open Stage: musicians Tasha Cadence and Marina Avros, and poet Jeremiah Gittens. The event was a great success and was attended by approximately 100 people, with many others pausing as they passed by or through the park over the course of the evening.

From an email sent after the event by one of the performers:

"I had just the most beautiful time at the concert that you organized in Cridge Park. I've been getting such wonderful feedback about it. So many folks commented on the trees swaying and the sound being so good and also just saying "I didn't even know that park was there!". I think it was a huge success and achieved all of the things you wanted. I feel so much gratitude that I was asked to play a part in it all."

2. Upcoming activities:

Music by the Shore: The next concert is coming up on July 20th in Reeson Park. The lineup for the event includes The Leftovers (made up of some of the members of SOLID Outreach's music support group), harmonica player Daniel Morel, and City of Victoria Poet Laureate Marie Metaphor. We have received a grant from Vancity for this event and the funding we received from the CRD IDEA Grant program will also be used to cover expenses.

Music on the Green: The final concert of the summer will take place on August 22nd on Pandora Green, near the Save-On-Food grocery store. Confirmed performers include Brian Yoon (Principal Cello of the Victoria Symphony), singer-songwriter Hoélune Rosé (who was scheduled to perform at Music in the Park but had to cancel due to illness), and young poet Jez.

3. Welcome events for residents of new buildings:

We are waiting to hear back from our contact at Townline regarding plans for a welcome event for residents of Hudson House sometime this summer. We are also still in conversation with Pacifica Housing about hosting a welcome event for residents of the Dalmation, the residential portion of the new firehall building.

Submitted by: James Davis, Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator

Report on VCAN – July 2023

The June meeting of VCAN was held on Wednesday, June 28th via ZOOM.

Presentation: Andrea Clark and Kari Michaels from the BCGEU were present to talk about the BCGEU's affordable housing strategy. There was discussion among neighbourhoods about how neighbourhood associations could work together. The BCGEU is offering a Community Action Toolkit for resources and guidance. Information can be found at: <https://www.affordablebc.ca/> There was lots of strong and sometimes heated conversation about the Inclusionary Housing Policy, Missing Middle and REITs.

Community Mapping project Susanne Rautio (Gonzales) and Carollyne Yardley (Rockland) reported on the meeting with Brooke Stark (Parks dept) and Gary Pemberton (Engagement). It appears that it is possible for VCAN to apply for a Great Neighbourhood Grant of \$7500 for the early stages of the community mapping project. A follow up meeting is planned for next week to discuss federal funding possibilities and a draft copy of the application for funding.

OCP review –Some concern expressed about what the process of engagement would look like for the upcoming OCP review and whether CALUCs and neighbourhood associations would be asked to participate. There is a need to gather information and plan strategy about how to participate in the process. Sandra will seek information over the summer months.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Report on 900 Block of Pandora Good Neighbour Group – July 2023

Washrooms

Conversation about the lack of 24/7 washrooms on Pandora continues. While daytime access is appreciated and the situation is being well supervised by SOLID, the need for nighttime access remains outstanding. The document of the provincial government, “Belonging in BC” states that access to washrooms and showers is a best practice response to encampments. To date we have not seen movement to put that in place. Advocacy will continue.

The situation on the street

The MCFD building at the corner of Pandora and Quadra is in the process of fencing off their property to prevent people from camping on their property. The Conservatory of Music will also be fencing their land on the Pandora and Quadra sides. Folk have been moved by Bylaw from the 1000 block of Pandora and are camping on the 900 block. As of July 9th, there were 35 tents pitched on the block. Concern is being expressed about the state of the block and what will happen to folk when the Fall rains begin. No information has been communicated so far to those who use the block.

941 Pandora

The safe injection site is under renovation and will open in November being rebranded as the Victoria Wellness Recovery Centre. The safe inhalation site will move from 926-930 Pandora to that site.