

Food Bearing, Pollinator and Native Plant Landscape Design Guidelines



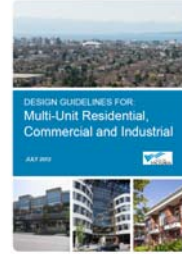
Purpose

- Introduce new landscape design guideline to require new commercial, industrial and multi residential developments to provide native, adapted, food bearing or pollinator plants as part of their landscape plans for common areas.
- Advances key action from 2019 – 2022 Strategic Plan



Proposed Approach

- Seek direction to amend the *Design Guidelines For: Multi-Unit Residential, Commercial and Industrial* and the *Design Guidelines for Attached Residential Development* to include the following landscape design:
 - *A minimum of 30% of the plants provided in the landscape design for common areas should be native vegetation, adapted (non-invasive) species, food bearing plants or plants that provide pollinator habitats.*
- 30% target provides flexibility with plant types and species to ensure year-round visual interest.



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Proposed Approach

Design guideline documents are identified in OCP and apply in the following areas:

- DPA 4: Town Centres
- DPA 5: Large Urban Villages
- DPA 6A: Small Urban Villages
- DPA 7A: Corridors
- DPA 10A: Rock Bay
- DPA 10B (HC): Rock Bay Heritage
- DPA 13: Core Songhees
- DPA 15F: Intensive Residential – Attached Residential Development
- DPA 16: General Form and Character (City-wide)



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OCP Amendment

- Update to existing design guideline documents requires an OCP Amendment Bylaw
- Proposed consultation with community associations, development industry, Urban Food Table, and the Accessibility Working Group.
- Staff will report back to Council with summary of feedback and proposed OCP amendment bylaw prior to first reading.
- Additional feedback through public hearing



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Recommendation

That Council:

1. Direct staff to amend the *Design Guidelines For: Multi-Unit Residential, Commercial and Industrial* and the *Design Guidelines for Attached Residential Development* to include the following landscape design guideline:
 - *A minimum of 30% of the plants provided in the landscape design for common areas should be native vegetation, adapted (non-invasive) species, food bearing plants or plants that provide pollinator habitats.*
2. Direct staff to bring forward an Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw to amend:
 - a. Development Permit Areas 4, 5, 6A, 7A, 10A, 10B, 13 and 16 with an updated reference to the revised *Design Guidelines For: Multi-Unit Residential, Commercial and Industrial*.
 - b. Development Permit Area 15F: Intensive Residential - Attached Residential Development with an updated reference to the revised *Design Guidelines for Attached Residential Development*.



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Recommendation

3. Consider consultation under Section 475(2)(b) of the *Local Government Act* and direct staff that no referrals of the Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw are necessary to the Capital Regional District Board, Island Health, Songhees Nation, Esquimalt Nation, provincial or federal governments, Township of Esquimalt, District of Saanich and the District of Oak Bay.
4. Consider consultation under Sections 475(1) and 475(2) of the *Local Government Act* and direct staff to undertake consultation with the community including Community Association Land Use Committees and the development industry on the proposed amendments to the *Official Community Plan* through online consultation and direct email correspondence.
5. Refer the proposed *Official Community Plan* amendments to the Accessibility Working Group and the Urban Food Table for comments.

