

Appendix B: Comments and questions received through the Town Hall

****Comments and questions are a summary of those received in person during the Town Hall****

Comments are organized by speakers – the numbers correspond to the total number of speakers.

1. More bike routes to increase safety, particularly for children on bicycles
More bike infrastructure, making Victoria more like the Netherlands and Scandinavia
2. More environmental bike routes which do not affect the environment negatively
More art.
More natural places.
3. A crosswalk at Michigan and Douglas to make crossing safer
4. Applaud the inclusion of a safe consumption site in the strategic plan
Providing dignity to those who are struggling is an important priority.
5. Concerned about catastrophic climate change, now is the time to act – things can happen at the municipal level.
Want real bike lanes – need to have a curb between the cars and bicycles.
Streets closed downtown – Government and Broad, possibly Fort St
Cheaper buses and better bus services paid for with taxes on gas
Property taxes could be related to whether or not houses are well-insulated.
6. Confluence of electric vehicles and solar energy in a constellation of solutions available to use to address climate change and improve the quality of the places we live.
Solicit Council's help to empower people of Victoria to discover the advantages of driving on sunshine.
Looking for: Supportive policies, financial incentives and strategic support for collaborative small scale infrastructure projects. This approach will provide people with practical solutions.
10 solutions: streamline permitting for installation of solar and electric vehicle charging stations, requirements for new buildings and renovations to have provisions for installation of electric vehicle charging stations, grants and low interest loans for workplace and home charger and solar installations, designated for parking for commercial vehicles that are electric, interurban level 3 charging for commuters, grant and loans to enable food producers to move towards electric vehicles for their work and their delivery
7. Interested in daylighting different bits of Harris Creek/Rock Creek.
Water is our most precious and often forgotten resources.
The City is thinking about stormwater in a new way, this is the time to do it.
Our idea is to work with north park and the communities between Fernwood and Rock Bay to mark the stream and daylight it.
Will email all the Councillors with the list of places where might be able to daylight
8. Cycling infrastructure is important
Q: Are you involved in joint infrastructure planning with CRD or other major utilities? e.g., Capital planning coordination with utility companies. If COV is repaving, sewer piper – do you coordinate with utilities to see opportunities for cost savings and reducing impacts to traffic?
Q: Is it available in GIS format?
9. 60% of GG comes from transportation (not including harbour, airport or ferries)
Nothing but positive things to say about Strategic Plan – stress multimodal and active transportation network, links land use and transportation for corridor planning and has a vision of the downtown as a regional hub
Public transport times equal or better to auto trip duration
E&N Station closest to downtown or as close to waterfront as can be done
Support for Island Transportation current project a commuter rail project: The 16 km line from Victoria to Langford could carry 4 trains a day with 1600 commuters at the start to 2800 /day when it's developed, but the project to get started needs reliable cost estimates. Seeking support from Victoria and other municipalities and other major businesses and land developers that would benefit and it helps achieve many of the 13 strategic objectives
Parallel Douglas Street corridor in helping regional hub
Reduce pressure on downtown parking and find an alternative to car dependence for everyone

10. Learn to grow and access healthy local food, often in urban context and with vulnerable populations
 - Support food system actions, goals and objectives in the draft Strategic Plan
 - Support in particular the creation of micro-grants in support of community commons and gardens
 - Support creating inventory of city-owned land that is accessible for food production
 - Increasing food education and food sovereignty in general
 - Within Strategic Plan or in addition: Look to engage with community towards 5 points:
 - Shifting management of city parks, boulevards and greenspaces from ornamental to edible plants – to prioritize native edibles and perennials (fruit trees, nut trees, berries)
 - Provide food growing resources funds and materials for community members that want to engage in urban agriculture
 - Expand availability of city land for food growing and mechanisms for long term tenure for growers
 - Increase distribution of fresh local food to vulnerable populations
 - Mandate city staff member to engage with community around local food systems
 - Make sure to engage knowledge keepers from indigenous communities and indigenizing food systems
11. Passion for bikes and for eating
 - Experiencing homelessness and think that has to be a priority in our society
 - If we don't deal with human issues first we won't be able to deal with the other issues
 - Hard to care about bike lanes, vegetables and fruits if I'm worried about a home, and eating and other things
 - Everybody that's built now, 10% has to be put to social housing – not that has to be rented for cheap, but that costs nothing
 - Homelessness is against the law in countries like Iceland – no matter the circumstances (addiction etc.)
 - Been led to believe that it's illegal to camp on private property, could help with gardening and offer protection etc. Might suggest that that needs to be revisited
 - Stand up and make a declaration that from this day forward homeless is illegal and figure out ways to deal with it
 - Commercial builders making millions, donating 3 spaces in a 100 apartment building is nothing
 - If you want other issues to be dealt with – need to deal with homelessness issues first
12. Accessibility for people with disabilities and motilities is still a real issue in 2015
 - Heard a bit about bicycles and traffic calming, but bring that in light for people with wheelchairs and baby carts – they're like biking with chairs
 - Healthy biking communities can also help with people disabilities – look at inclines, buildings
 - Closing down Government St, making it a public mall
 - Heritage buildings in the city that are inaccessible for people to climb up stairs with sore knees, if you have severe mobility or disability issues they can't even go to certain places and as far as bringing more tax money and economic stimulus goes – if we can't go into a building we can't spend money there
 - 10–20% of pop in COV has a mobility or disability issue that's listed
 - Q: How do people like myself and other people that I can bring into a meeting get a chance to sit down and have us considered and really get some viable solutions to the accessibility problem that's in Victoria?
13. Seen Victoria from an able-bodied side and with a disability
 - How often a very small last step or last few feet gets me away from going to a favorite pub or through a bathroom door
 - In new buildings it's standard to have accessibility, but when buildings get renovations they don't have a wide enough door to get in the bathroom or one step to get in off a street (Government and Johnston, little ledge 8 inches high to get into the business)
 - Lack of thought to accessibility in the city
 - Pool – quite a patronizing experience, had to ask at the front counter to use the lift, get in the bathroom there's no bench or place to change, just very inaccessible and wheelchairs are not new
 - Parks and outdoor areas, a lot of places where there is an 8 inch step that prevents getting from one place to another
 - A lens in place to how we can make it more accessible when renovating etc.

14. GV Cycling Coalition

More people cycling, more places, more often,

Letter sent to M+C from GV Cycling Coalition

- Cycling Master Plan update and the planned bike lane on Pandora Ave. are first steps in the path to building an all ages and all abilities cycling network
- Individual and societal benefits are well documented and prove health outcomes, reduce congestion and GG emissions, more business for local economy etc.
- Everyone benefits from more people cycling
- Healthy, cost effective, equitable way to improve the sustainability of urban transportation and a more lively healthy happy and liveable city is one where more people cycle on a daily basis
- Strategic Plan objective 9 lists a variety of outcomes related to cycling including completing 6 priority projects identified last year for 2018 and a more ambitious goal of completing 4-8 high quality cycling facilities for 2016; however draft financial plan for the active transportation plan only accounts for the 6 priority projects or \$1 million/year over 5 years in cycling investments
- Dramatically improve active transportation and invest in a high quality cycling network designed for all ages and abilities
- 3 recommendations – that Council:
 - o Commit to the design and construction of an all ages and abilities cycling network by 2018
 - o Triple the proposed level of investment for cycling infrastructure to \$3million/year for 5 years; Invest substantial portions or the surplus to cycling
 - o Work to increase staff capacity through additional staff, training and consulting services to ensure that the city it has the resources it needs to build a work class cycling network

15. Transportation is a key element to a healthy, economically sound and vibrant community, is important to balance transportation choices and move away from car dominance to create a high quality pedestrian, transit and bicycling environment

Will require better infrastructure beyond painting lines on a road, and a change in attitude towards making our streets comfortable for everyone

For family, cycling on painted bike lanes aren't enough

From the Strategic Plan objectives, were we to actually build a really good connected cycling system, about 8 of the objectives would be met – cycling network would have some impact on them - Bicycling is more affordable and a very equitable form of transportation

16. Proliferating community garden spaces

High level of demand

OCP plan section 17 (b) (d) on food production and healthy affordable local food

Strategic Plan priority number 8

Like Council and City to put far greater level of energy and engagement into creating new spaces for people to grow their own food, whether in community gardens or boulevards

Part time City person to facilitate coordination of organization of new gardens and gardeners

Assurance of long term tenure of community garden

Financial and construction assistance with land clearance, access to water, fencing, raised beds, subsidized water and soil

Promote and support the introduction of three new gardens each year for the next five years

17. Making the city livable and vibrant and supporting the arts community; On behalf of live music as a part of our vibrant community – Music is integral

Thriving arts can be an important part of a city which is striving to be vibrant and has tourism as a part of its national and international presence

Have a successful partnership with the COV - Present music in BHP and in Centennial Square, administer on behalf of the city. All of the money to the musicians – 5% goes to supporting the local

This year there is a slight decrease in the number of concerts, so we're just making people know what a good and successful program it is

18. Provisional City fund for micro housing community for the homeless, a pilot project for the COV

Diverse approaches are needed to provide housing to the people who, for many different reasons and life circumstances find themselves homeless in the city

The growing gap between cost of housing and access to financial resources is a problem for a growing % of Victoria population

Most vulnerable citizens, those struggling with a variety of issues, are amongst those the most affected by poverty and the lack of affordable housing

As municipalities continue to feel the effects of senior level government cuts they must make wiser choices on how to use public resources

It is clearly cheaper and more ethically appropriate for society to house the homeless than police them on the streets

Approx. 75% of Victoria \$35 million police budget is spent managing the segment of homeless with issues

Time for City Council to invest in adequate housing and harm reduction supports and services that will allow people to recover and rebuilt their lives

Policing along cannot achieve these goals, it is a waste of public resources to continue funding growing police budgets at the expense of affordable housing and harm reduction

The Committee is interested in exploring micro-housing villages for the homeless – a low cost, grassroots community solution to building semi self-managed affordable housing which is emerging in the US.

Democratically operated homeless encampments goes back to the depression era and a new trend in sustainable housing design favoring tiny houses that allow people to lead materially simply lives with less stuff and with less of an ecological footprint

Micro-housing is a cost-effective solution with an average unit for a single person 1/13 of the building cost of conventional low cost building unit, built by volunteers in 4 hours

Residents commit themselves to a code of conduct and agreements against use of drugs and alcohol, theft, and have weekly volunteer duties

19. Seniors affordable housing – trying to expand from seniors to also include families

Pleased to see Strategic Plan objective number 6

If there was an objective step, for example a 10% increase a year for affordable housing units for seniors or families, go to the people who are providing that housing now and ask what would it take for you to provide that 10% housing and see what they have to suggest for ways it can be done – Don't have to reinvent the wheel for expertise from the community

20. Strongly agree with overall goal where human needs are a priority with all of us working together

Budget allocation does not reflect strategic goals – Affordable housing is an example

\$250,000 is less than %1 of the total budget

Glad there's room to study other ideas (zoning, tax exemptions) but need to get on with concrete initiatives

If you are not willing to increase taxes, need to revisit budget to make sure there is a greater focus on social justice issues: accessibility, affordable housing, mental health issues

21. Why rail transit is not considered in this plan? All over North America, rail transit is receiving investment because it works to move people, to bring higher density development where you want it

Victoria built on streetcar system, have been trying to maintain business downtown ever since the introduction of the automobile because the streetcar brings how many people to downtown

Need to consider rail transit to renew downtown – brings economic activity

E&N – properly rebuilt can deliver as many people as a four lane highway, bring them downtown. A Streetcar line can cross the new bridge, tram train cars can travel on roads

22. Local organic food, want to see as much support for it as possible

Could make local food more accessible: a food coupon offered through a market association, one had to turn people away this year. Single and low income families enjoyed and benefited from it, support those types of programs

City waste and food scraps– should see those mixed in with yard waste and turned it into compost given back to people

Incentives to homeowners to grow their own food – kits, education, support, boulevard gardens, all active progressive things

23. Strategy number 5 – create prosperity through economic development

Dismayed by large number of vacant commercial spaces

High property taxes one of the reasons – 17% increase over five years for business taxes, 20% compounded Victoria pales in comparison for vacancy rates to other local governments in the area

Objective number 5 won't be accomplished through a %17 increase in taxes

24. Desire first class cycling in Victoria for all ages and all abilities

Cycling in Victoria is one of the fastest growing forms of transportation and the current infrastructure can't handle it

The more bikes, the more drivers are becoming frustrated and it's dangerous

Good cycling infrastructure modeled by the Netherlands – they were car centric in the 70s like we are now but had people and political will behind it

Allocate as much as you of the 4.5 surplus to our first in class cycling infrastructure

Making Victoria the happiest city – this is one step in that direction

25. My five priorities

Engage and empower the community – a precondition, need involve and support of citizens and continue to put resources towards that

Plan for emergencies, including climate change – the number one issue of our century, like to see more than just to plan for them, let's prevent the emergencies in the first place by reducing the emissions by also by halting the expansion of pipelines and tankers, urge you to continue the issue explicitly in the plan

Complete a multimodal and active transportation network – great way to reduce emissions, electric cars: could the City review its building bylaws to ensure charging stations in all new residential construction, and some form of property tax breaks for existing stratas and free city parking for electric vehicles?

Create prosperity through economic development – especially green and high tech sectors

Diversified and sustainable economy

Steward our water systems and waste streams responsibly – support a distributed model of tertiary treatment in our region and hope that we can find a way to bridge east and west side solutions

26. Healthy livable lifestyle

Use the 4.5\$ surplus towards enhancing the things that make us healthy and vibrant community

Enhancement of a bike network that connects the dots, into and out of the city and web in all directions

Food security and growing in our own community – ability to be secure in our opportunity to grow our own food

Creating public space and private spaces that are edible and enhance our own food security

Affordable housing – fundamental building block of our society – accessibility to safe affordable housing, initiatives to support co-op housing has not had enough support

27. Flood in a basement as a result of a break in the city water line – the damage would not have been as extensive if the water had been redirected into the street. We need kits to assist with that.

Sidewalks – we have devoted the sidewalks to cars, every single driveway is painful for someone in a wheelchair – would like to see all the sidewalks built the same way as 1400 broad street – a gentle curve going up for the cars to park but everything is flat. Tired of uneven parts of the sidewalk

28. Harm reduction a daily reality – helping by giving clean needles but discouraging by banning the use of the bathrooms as it becomes a place to use.

Despite all the knowledge of harm reduction it's a higher priority to inject quickly to avoid being moved along or shamed than to do it safer.

Safe consumption site is an integral part of public health. Thank you for ensuring that it becomes a high priority.

29. Increased attention for youth involvement in the city especially students and the issues they face – Further involvement of students of UVic and Camosun
Youth council – no current projects on their website now, 14–24 a wide age range for issues
Like to see more emphasis of issues for youth and students, especially with affordability of housing, density, transit, everything
30. Everyone should be able to get where they're going even if they don't have access to car
Those who cannot or choose not to drive should be given the safety and dignity of a first class cycling, walking and rolling network.
Traffic calming and protective bike lanes that accommodate all ages and abilities will reduce our emissions, improve safety for everyone on the roads, and promote economic and tourism framework.
Social, economic and environmental sustainability hinges on a comfortable all ages and abilities transportation network.
Continue to support a healthy community centered around walking cycling and active transportation in general
31. Like to see matrix type of cross budgeting. Two examples: special events mentioned in 4 or 5 different spots, nowhere is it brought together. Should be disclosed together for next year
Physical – what's underground – needs to be a priority, critical to any city existing
Will find some savings this year hopefully because I think you're going to need it
Taxes are going up not just for commercial buildings but also for residents and tenants who pay through their rent
Paying the costs of an inner city that the rest of the municipalities are not covering
Crosswalk at Michigan and Douglas also
Mobility issues – number is increasing for those who require it, we have streets where we now streets (Simcoe) – as many people using the road for mobility issues as the sidewalks because they are dangerous, and not just for the sloping but also issues like hydro poles
Bike lanes can't use mobility scooters etc. go – share bike lanes or sidewalks, if they stay in the sidewalks the city will have to do something
32. Water – keep that as a focus for myself and other people
Talk of homeless and places for them to live – Woodwyn Farms is a good idea for that
Recycling and garbage – if we were to separate food and other things garbage wouldn't be disgusting. Do research or ask questions
Empty lots being dug look like they're going to have big business buildings put in. Looks beautiful but looks like it's ready to be used for a building – spaces that are open could be used for anything. Skyscraper greenhouse, using those buildings for something like that could reduce the amount of land used for growing food
33. If you're going to have a policy to have everyone grow their own food then you better have a policy to deal with the deer
Put a policy in place to deal with parking change requests in a timely way
Second request, taxis in Victoria – close to 300 – special needs vans, extra cabs through late night great night – but no facilities to park the cabs. No thought to where the vans will be deployed after giving permission to have them.
Multimodal transportation review – give taxi cab industry more of a profile, part and parcel of that review
34. Anything that promotes open government transparency in all levels and all ways I support – citizenry does too.
Q: Civic Engagement – I like to see somebody connected to civic engagement say what's happening in that and what will happen, because the people want to get involved but they need a process that opens it up and makes people feel welcome and connected to their elected officials and the people that work in the building, for the next 5 years
35. Parking for downtown – if we could partner with BC Transit and get everyone a bus pass, especially people with minimum wage jobs might help with transit and parking downtown
Increase of \$1.5 police budget – if that could include defibrillators as they are first responders (in all vehicles)
That Victoria become a gun free city – don't need weapons of war in our city, our laws do not have the death penalty, should not have the means to manslaughter people in our city

36. Pleased to see the multimodal aspect – interested in seeing rail transit happen

Tax dollars for transportation go largely to those who own a vehicle, for those who are forced to walk or cycle or drive a scooter there is nothing in the way of full transportation for those people which rail transit could bring

Transit (rail) benefits everybody and is one of the best for mobility challenged people

Streetcars are continuous along with bikes in the Netherlands, cooperation between them and other users

Lots of requests for money for projects – but Victoria has a tremendous opportunity to follow Portland – planned rail through vacant spaces where a \$55 million investment paid off in the billions. Plan for the density by putting in rail

Electric rail has no pollution, cyclists will benefit from rail - when talking about transit specify between rail or bus

37. Downtown business owners concerned when we see shops closing

Happy to see everyone's support of transit networks – think the key there is networks

Don't need to do little piecemeal projects here and there

One idea for consideration is separating high speed high volume traffic like light rail and cars from cyclists and pedestrians: Something along the lanes of Douglas/Government one way in with cars and light rail, and then Government/Quadra for pedestrians and cycling. Pedestrians, bikes and cars do not play well together

Parking is a big issue for downtown businesses, biggest deterrent for getting new customers/clients. One hour free in parkades is appreciated

Frustrated with the Harris Green charette, where the requirement for 1.1 parking stalls for every residential development, but watch every development in the last 10 years get a variance off that

Love the Strategic Plan but there needs to be a commitment to sticking to it

Affordable housing – City doesn't really have the power to hit the most driving force which is low interest rates – housing costs are going up because money is cheap

One area the City can address is foreign investment, or non-resident investment a tier structure that puts higher tax burden on non-resident owners than resident owners prioritize people who live and work in Victoria

38. Like the idea of getting cars off Quadra St.

Quadra area and neighbourhood – Should make you want to get out of your car and walk – except the speed of the traffic on the street. No barrier between road and the sidewalk

Consider getting rid of no parking between 4–6 to slow down traffic, don't need it for traffic leaving the city

39. Shifting management of city parks, boulevards and green spaces from ornamental to edible plants – to prioritize native edibles and perennials (fruit trees, nut trees, berries)

Provide food growing resources, funds and materials for community members that want to engage in urban agriculture (e.g., depot)

Expand availability of City land for food growing and mechanisms for long term tenure of growers – have at least 3, better is 5 years or longer.

Mandate City staff member to engage with community around local food systems – we need the support of a City rep to help us out in making sure the initiatives are integrated with the city's goals

40. Vancouver City Council funded a storage facility for people's belongings for people experiencing homelessness – shopping carts, ID, important papers and clothing, meds, etc. – a valuable resource for those with no home

A facility in Victoria is desperately needed for these people, on behalf the 100s of homeless in Victoria. This supports Strategic Plan objective 7 and would help reduce stigma for those having to carry their belongings in bags or carts. Consider allocating \$45,000 of the surplus to create a facility like this in our city

41. Access to fresh local food and to be engaged in their food system

Coming together around local food, except city support to local food systems

Ensuring the land we have to grow and gather food is one of the first steps

Grass boulevards and unused city spaces require money to maintain. Gardens offer the opportunity for communities to grow together, people to access fresh foods they can grow themselves, and for farmers to access lands. This provides jobs, a local economic boost and access to fresh local food.

City support for regional coordination – task force and advisory to work with City staff and Councillors, private sector and community organizations to prioritize and implement strategic plans

Provide City support for anchor organizations like Lifecycles, Compost Centre and CR Affair and to explore opportunities of working with indigenous communities

Supporting community based centres – support of food hubs, like neighbourhood houses, schools or recreation centres and Victoria native friendship centers and others from Esquimalt and Songhees Nations

To ensure access to fresh local food and to be engaged in the food system need City's support and also resources

42. Shifting the responsibility of boulevards from public works to private owners (to reduce the need for the City to manage or spend money) – then have the food system organizations approach private owners to possibly do bargaining and work that out on their own – absolve the City from maintenance and remove the application requirement

Support bicycle infrastructure – Consider new buildings for bike infrastructure – financial incentives for parking and allowing variance with that, like to see less of that and expect development to develop with less parking

Fire station #1 – investing in that right now, the time to invest is not when it has crumbled on top of all of our disaster management and life safety equipment

Heritage site next to fire hall should be on our list to generate income

Eliminate boulevards – not to eliminate City or union jobs but consider pairing that with other garden works as there is more work to be done than we have workers.

Council and Mayor should consider raising taxes – if we can invest in bike lanes the next couple years we can save taxes in the future, instead of trying to get by year by year with the least amount of taxes so I'm willing to pay into that now

Reiterate public interest with our police – that's the biggest part of our budget so if we have the ability to review that by electric vehicles and eliminating two police officers and adding a social worker

43. Active transportation – cycling, pedestrian and greenways plans have horizons in the decades – with some share of the surplus you can try and accelerate some of the those plans to realize the real results to shift transportation choices to more active modes in the shorter term

Tackling climate change, reducing reliance on private cars for transportation and encourage choosing active transportation as it has impacts for budgets for stormwater management and other infrastructure

Community planning and affordability – helping to shift transportation choices also helps make transporting oneself more accessible for more people

Cost for parking in underground parking is expensive which drives up cost of housing, with 35% of our land already dedicated to the movement of storage of vehicles we need to make some changes that will cap that figure

New capital city plan, Belleville terminal and village plans need to look at evolutionary process and how we evolve our transportation networks – can't be done all at once, like to see it move more quickly and need to look at how to make changes long term and how to work with your citizens to make that happen

44. Like Strategic Plan objective 8

Some things we can tweak – easy switch to start moving the money for landscaping, plants and plant production to be used directly on producing food production plants

Put a percentage of your budget towards perennial plants, that can be beautifully integrated into the city of gardens – 0% now being allocated to food production plants, making 10% a goal for the first year and then raising that by 10% every other year for your 5 year strategic plan makes it 50% – you have the staff with the skills they just need the direction from Council for training and to think differently about our city spaces

Please increase funds and grants to the food security non-profit organizations that are already thriving, need some support and core funding for existing programming and not get them to juggle or have new programs when the stuff now needs core grants

Please increase community allotment garden spaces on city land – with the increase of high density living and affordable living this comes with a decrease of land and the decrease of home food production and allotments - assist with this as well as being a wonderful therapy tool for all types of people

Having condo developments have to incorporate food gardens into their building plans is a wonderful way to do this without any cost to the city

Allow free parking passes for farmers making deliveries into the city – a simple way to say thanks for making food for the city

45. Strategic Plan objectives 2, 6 and 7

#2 – Engaging the community – great neighbourhood initiatives, make them better and include those who have lots to say regarding the neighbourhood (homeless)

There is a Councillor liaison to reach out to the Esquimalt and Songhees, but one is also needed for the marginalized and homeless

Needs to be more inclusion with the community that doesn't have much of a voice

#6 – task force – who will be on it, and if social inclusion will be part of it and if you'll come to our place, the greater Victoria coalition to end homelessness, 2 peers 2 solid and AVI to find those people who could also give you feedback about what's going on in their world and what affordable housing looks like to them

Respect and dignity would go hand and hand with including people who are not here,

Thank you for having a sign language person here – to go one step here to have a typist so the words come over the screen, I couldn't hear what people were saying

#7 consumption site – community wellness is the police focus, please ask the police to stop taking people's belongings, they don't have a place to put them

Don't agree to make a building to put things in, if we make a building we need to make it for people not things

46. It's nice when you get picked up by the police, and they don't lose your stuff in transit

Would like to see Victoria go dry and advocate clean sober living

A 24-hour pot store so we can maintain that clear sober living – would reduce the need for harm reduction as everyone would be a pot head instead of a drunk

Indoor cannabis smoking lounge – easy consumption to advocate clean more sober living

Last thing we need is another bar serving booze or micro-brewery – Rock Bay area stinks

No more beer drunk festivals

Free medical marijuana for those on welfare and disability just like drugs from the doctor's office – help those to get note from a doctor to say they can use it legally buy Opening cannabis stores so we can get medical grade cannabis

Food – help support clean vegan living

These would mean less need for harm reduction

Grocery store and mall trash compactors – on the sidewalk its disgusting

Soil poisoning at north park between Vancouver and Cook St (lead and mercury)

Victoria dry – no booze – how much money you would save on bar watch safety and less rowdiness

Outlaw cigarette smoking, more enforcement of second hand cigarette bylaws

Better communication between 811, 911, nurses, hospital administration, ambulance, doctors, police – why do you have to tell the same story to everyone

47. Advocate for safer bike lanes, closing down some streets that have vehicle traffic and increase in housing trust fund beyond \$250,000

Divestment – makes sense economically, our investments to be protected from the volatility of the fossil fuel industry but it's also an ethical imperative; sustainable development, food security, human needs and the environment and bike lanes are in the Strategic Plan, so it doesn't make sense to fund those corporations – City came out against Northern Gateway but we're actually funding them

Divestment as a way to make tangible difference when it comes to climate change, more fossil fuel free investment options – take leadership on this issue

Interested in the role these fossil fuel investments have in our budget and whether divestment is part of our Strategic Plan

48. Response to “people who don’t pay taxes have no voice” – COV has a daytime population several times its nighttime population, they spend a lot of money here so wrong to disenfranchise us simply because we don’t live here
- Safe consumption sites – aggressive target for 2015 that may prove difficult – but in addition and in the short term a fixed needle exchange in downtown – run those processes in parallel
- Biking – 6 routes identified are maybe not actually the best routes, Pandora is first, not sure about Johnson – some more analysis needed
- Looking at where you are, there is a growing field called ‘vision 0’ – no one on your streets should be killed or seriously injured. Pedestrians and cyclists killed every year in the city – important part to imbed in Strategic Plan
49. Affordable Housing – housing should not be treated as a business. Sleep is a need Legalizing basement suites, tiny suites in backyards
- Transportation – train, better cycling lanes and infrastructure is a basic need
- Food security – a huge issue – where are we if we can’t eat
- More edible plants in Victoria, nurseries producing more food producing plants and those that support the pollinator ecosystem since they support our food systems
- Hope the Strategic Plan can go towards bettering all three of these issues
- More initiative in our neighbourhoods and education out about transportation, food security, accessible housing – education seminars in each town meeting place or town hall about how neighbourhoods can take initiative and how they can empower themselves
50. Priorities – affordable housing: idea of micro-housing communities may be a good and cost effective solution. Provisional funding of \$500,000 start-up costs on a piece of city land as part of the \$4.5 million surplus. City could do this to highlight the need to highlight the need for less transient housing.
- Support for the supervised consumption services – excited to see that support and to see that come into being
51. Don’t have a lot of parks in North Jubilee. Very pleased to see the Begbie Green has been put into the Strategic Plan. Begbie Green a weeny piece of land. Talk about another project done just before that – Fern St. Park. Want to talk about the change that a little bit of revitalization can have on a neighbourhood. Playground equipment was changed and the little things that we did to the park has changed the whole dynamic of a park use – people who didn’t even know such a thing existed. Usage 10-50 times what was there before. Not just kids to use the playground but a totally multigenerational group of people. So I’m thinking and hoping that as the Begbie Green thing does forward that the same kind of thing will happen. Thank you for including it and looking forward to working with you and seeing it advance.
52. Support to people who spot to city support for local food systems. Like to see the city support as much as possible.
- Would like to speak specifically to sustainable building and construction practices - have been a lot of advancement recently in building science in what we can do to make our buildings healthier and more sustainable. Goes beyond green certification like LEED: things like PASSIVE house can actually reduce the energy use in buildings up to 90% and it’s very possible. If the City can do anything to support that – I know the city doesn’t have control over the building code in BC, which is far below what those standards are, but you do have control over city facilities so as you’re moving forward with increased investment or building new facilities I’d really like to see you have some ambitious goals for sustainability in those building. Investing in quality buildings actually saves money over the long term and that has been well documented.
- Permitting process – opportunity to demonstrate leadership such as the City of Vancouver to encourage or incentivize builders who want to do very forward thinking developments that can be proven to save money.
- Expediting processes for things like green developments – similar to expedited affordable housing, link the two. Sustainable building makes sense for affordable housing because a building that uses less energy is obviously more affordable
- Affordable housing task force member with a building science background but that would be great.
- Last thing you could do is enhance the training of City staff around green buildings. I’ve recently spoken to a number of City staff who’ve showed some real interest in that.

53. Support request for funding for storage for people who are homeless and having to carry belongings around in carts and garbage bags. Commitment of dollars from other organizations, 1% of your surplus would be really nice towards making that a reality. Safe consumption sites a priority of downtown service providers, appreciate the prominence in the Strategic Plan.

Want to reiterate that if people had homes they wouldn't need storage, if people had homes they wouldn't need to inject in doorways and alleys so a Strategic Plan around supported and affordable housing is really critical

Would be remiss if I didn't mention the downtown community center, believe \$45,000 is the amount invested in other community and senior centres across the city. The community center provides no cost wellness recreation and health programs to people in the downtown and would benefit from some support from the city.

54. Advocate for cycling infrastructure and I have two ideas that I'd like to offer:

Allocating limited dollars is a challenge,

Pg. 805 of draft financial plan, \$20 million for complete streets – 73% of that goes to road repair, might be a useful and fruitful area to find savings in order to fund what people said was part of a happy city, and that's more cycling.

Whatever gets measured gets done – 30 km of roads have been successfully cracked sealed and 500 pot holes been fixed. Suggest that you also report on the number of m of protected bike lanes that have been built and protected.

55. Myself and some of my neighbours are opposed to what they have done to BHP and can no longer drive through the park the way we want to. Some of my neighbours are seniors and they don't go into the park any longer because they can't go

Also opposed to the closing of Rockland; I walk through Pioneer Park twice a day five days a week and just in the last two weeks I've been verbally abused, people smoking pot, drinking, homeless people with stuff all over the place, have to walk around stuff and people sleeping. We need housing for these people. Not conducive to people wanting to being the park, only people you see there are homeless people and occasionally people looking at the cemetery stones that have been revitalized at the back. Something needs to be done. More cars going through there would see what's going on, doesn't even feel safe to walk through there during the day.

Lots of talk of changing boulevards and people growing food. I am opposed and so are my neighbourhoods. We already have issues with deer and I want the city to do something about the deer. Putting gardens on the boulevard, how are you going to keep the deer out, how are people going to get out of their cars, it's a tripping hazard, kids are going to be throwing the food around I'm really opposed. People don't look after them – stuff is dead and it looks awful I don't want to have it.

Secondary suites need to address parking issues.

56. We need to enforce the rules we already have, more trained individuals in the intermediate not to extend police authority but to hold them there until they need to be removed

We need more temporary housing. I believe we can do that by also having more institutions for people who need to be reprimanded who are repetitive offenders. I don't think we should take away from the police budget I believe they should be supported with more integrity and training

A community policing station helps people report stolen property and find it more rapidly and with more people trained in the area more safety and confidence keeping speed and accidents down and fewer people being terrorized with road rage and people who do not respect other people's right to privacy

57. Thank you for not charging me any money to sell my art. Running the city perfectly fine, all you need is more funding, don't know where you're going to get it.

Make housing and create employment to build the housing. You will make lots of money renting those building and you can make that non-profit if you care to

Appendix C: Comments and questions directed to Council or staff through the e-Town Hall

Question Source	Question
facebook	I appreciate the great work that the City is doing to extend its bicycling infrastructure and in its update to the Bicycle Master Plan. My question is about the Off-Bay route. As someone who rides Bay St from Vic West to the rest of the City frequently, I would like to know if the City would consider extending its priority upgrades in this first period to the Off-Bay route westward to improve the connectivity from the north end of Vic West to the Burnside Gorge, Fernwood and Oaklands areas. Thank you.
facebook	Unprecedented evening! Kudos to all City of Victoria staff, Council and Mayor for the visioning and delivery of this seamless event! It is so inspiring watching and listening to citizen engagement online via the webcast, Twitter and Facebook. Thank you.
facebook	My name is Section 22 . First, thank you for opening and enrolling the citizens of Victoria in this budget process. It is a sign of great leadership. A large number of preferred lots and buildings sit vacant that could be developed, providing more revenue to the City (e.g., the two buildings on the corner of Wharf & Johnson Street or the old hotel on Douglas and Belleville Street). At a time when many storefronts sit vacant on Government Street and when the population in cities around Victoria is substantially on the rise (e.g., Langford), why aren't we moving faster to develop these sites and build more housing units in our downtown core? Why are we allowing the owners of these sites to let such buildings sit in shambles for so long? Businessss will only survive year-round in the downtown core if there are citizens who call the downtown hub their home.
facebook	To follow on to the topic of empty storefronts in high value areas such as our downtown core, I'm aware that property owners will sometimes prefer to keep rents high and storefronts empty in order to maintain high property market values. After all, if they lower rents and their asset values decrease, they lose their own market leverage. I can appreciate that if our empty storefront trend continues, in the long run these high value property owners will not be able to maintain such a strategy. But if we let it get to that point, we will continue to see a depletion of our own local culture in our downtown core, and in the mean time our downtown remains vulnerable to property owners bringing in foreign business to fill the void. Foreign business means more local dollars leaving our community. Is there really nothing in the city's power or strategic initiative to motivate high-value property owners to adopt more locally inclusive practices regarding use of their storefronts? Such as tax incentives for encouraging the diversification of our local economy, or use of tax penalties for prolonged disuse?
facebook	Just Read through the Short form Budget...Is the 23% Civic Budget Devoted to Police How You Plan to address Homelessness...Or are funding Parks and Hanging baskets the solution to the GLARING issue? Not even Mentioned? Shame. Affordable housing, Rent Control and Subsidies All Initiatives that should Deserve to be tabled in the budget How about a Homefulness task force Wt an adequate Budget to address each individual. It is asinine to Continue to See Police and Parks Budgets Eating up Moneys Better Spent on Giving People a Place to Live. Run the Policing, Park Maintenance and Beautification Numbers that are devoted to Hiding Homelessness. I'm sure You will find this is a Clearly a Costly Mean spirited and Punitive Expense. You are supposed to be Leaders Take the Lead!
facebook	Thank you for the improvements you have made to options for participation in events and viewing via webcasting. My question is regarding the availability of resources to develop Local Area Plans for neighbourhoods. Many date from the 1990's, and not having current plans is an impediment to thoughtful comprehensive planning and development, affecting many other issues discussed, whether it is bike lanes or greenspace. The current schedule to complete them is inadequate. Can City of Victoria please allocate resources to a timely completion of Local Area Plans? Thanks, Section 22 Hillside Quadra
facebook	Not a question but a request: on behalf of the many citizens who have come together as Greater Victoria Placemaking Network, we would like to see an integrated initiative supporting placemaking, active transportation, complete streets and citizen engagement. #victownhall
facebook	When is Rockland going to get a community centre, parks and other amenities? There is no meeting space and residents must do their recreation in other neighbourhoods.

Question Source	Question
facebook	why is it necessary to spend an entire budget as opposed to be efficient and trying to save taxpayers money?
Phone	(Mayor and Council) People not paying City taxes should not have a platform.
Phone	(Mayor and Council) Anyone who does not pay taxes to the City of Victoria should not have a voice in how the City spends its money
twitter	Amount allocated to Active Transportation in budget seems inadequate considering needs. Can more be allocated? #VicTownHall
twitter	#victownhall Want to add my voice to those calling for increased emphasis on active transit and bike lanes. A full minimum grid is req'd.
twitter	#VicTownHall don't have a referendum, just lead. ie: bikes/close roads even like Govt./Broad st, tax gas to pay for bike/safety.
twitter	@CityOfVictoria looking forward to @lisahelps allocating \$\$\$\$ for #YYJ cycling Infrastructure #VicTownHall http://t.co/OXR8sds090
twitter	Hoping the Budget/Strategic Plan will help to make #yyj more awesome! Support for citizen engagement & modern cycling network #VicTownHall
twitter	Hoping #yyj's Budget/Strat Plan supports placemaking, active transportation, complete streets and separated bike lanes #victownhall
twitter	#VicTownHall Two-way bike lanes please, to allow safe, healthy and environmental transportation in @CityOfVictoria #yyj
twitter	.@theradcyclist oh! oh! And crosswalk across foot of Cook St at Dallas Rd #VicTownHall (the one request my 12yr old asked me to put forward)
twitter	#VicTownHall very much agree with @GVCC. We should be putting our surplus towards bike infrastructure. Tax me to hell, I want better cycling
twitter	#VicTownHall kicking off to a great start. I'd like to add my support for improved cycling infrastructure and downtown livability.
twitter	#victownhall Meet most of the 11 yyj objectives by starting with active transportation and food systems @CityOfVictoria @lisahelps
twitter	#victownhall crosswalks! Yes, we need one at Richmond at Richardson desperately.
twitter	@LeVelo_Victoria @modacitylife Great letter. Let's get Victoria moving on multi-use, vibrant streets and public spaces. #VicTownHall
twitter	Our request for @CityOfVictoria budget: integrated placemaking, active transportation, complete streets, citizen engagement. #victownhall
twitter	#VicTownHall what about a permanent bike lane along Cook St?
twitter	#victownhall can more than 1 million per year be allocated on a #minimumgrid for transportation by bicycle in #yyj ? http://t.co/bt59ZnXZh7
twitter	How will the strategic plan address #completestreets in all #yyj neighbourhoods, including #BurnsideGorge? #VicTownHall
twitter	#victownhall Q: how will City support the groundswell of resident interest in placemaking & complete streets? http://t.co/bB6iDIZGj2
twitter	#VicTownHall I support more housing for those who have mental health and addiction issues that bar them from most housing.
twitter	#VicTownHall streamline permitting and zoning/permit process for solar technology.
twitter	Kudos to @lisahelps 4 tackling priority: public engagement. Now, let's tackle #climatechange prevention not just emergency prep #victownhall
twitter	#victownhall off leash dog issues in #yyj have become almost daily issue due to lack of enforcement & designated safe fenced off leash areas
twitter	.@CityOfVictoria excellent job on Social Media engaging the citizens of Victoria for this #VicTownHall this evening. #yyjpoli

Question Source	Question
twitter	This really changes public engagement: @CityOfVictoria budget Town Hall live streaming & social media = transparent democracy. #victownhall
twitter	This is the 1st time the budget and strategic plan are 2gether. Good work everyone. #VicTownHall
twitter	@lisahelps Bravo to you and council for top notch public engagement. This is awesome. #victownhall
twitter	#VicTownHall could you explain the miscellaneous expenditures of \$2.5M? Thank you.
twitter	Section 22 @CityOfVictoria Can we keep the speakers and topics local. #VicTownHall
twitter	My lament on free adm family festivals is city charges \$1000's for ppl to have a place to sit. #VicTownHall #buskers http://t.co/wFlu8l9YRq
twitter	Q: what can the City of Victoria do to help young professionals & students who want to work and live in Victoria for econ dev? #victownhall
twitter	#VicTownHall What plans are in the budget to reduce the property tax burden for downtown businesses? Need help to combat empty storefronts.
twitter	What can be done to help increase density outside of downtown core? Small lots made easier for the non commercial developer? #VicTownHall
twitter	Would be great to hear Council views at #victownhall on progress towards making Inner Harbor more vibrant, and attractive for locals.
twitter	Ensure the continued success of community food growing projects by linking land, volunteers & paid farmers. #yyj #victownhall
twitter	#VicTownHall grants and loans to food producers for alternative use.
twitter	#VicTownHall What action plans are in place to increase the community development and sustainable development budget? Give food a line item!
twitter	#VicTownHall \$213 M budget is roughly equal to the CRD budget
twitter	#victownhall micro suites at janion sold quick, other similar projects could include city designated sections for transitioning homeless
twitter	nerdin' out, watching the #VicTownHall at home...#socialhousing and #harmreduction are my priorities for #yyj.
twitter	#VicTownHall all the best over the next 4 years!
twitter	#victownhall new @gvpl central branch built at centennial square would be nice place to put roof top green garden and event space with views
twitter	What would it take for the City of Victoria to buy Mason Street City Farm? #VicTownHall
twitter	#VicTownHall safer pedestrian crossing at Haultain and Cook is needed. Dangerous 4 + turning lanes of fast moving cars & terrible visibility
twitter	Can you make downtown more colourful? It's so drab. #VicTownHall
twitter	@CityOfVictoria #victownhall question can we work to slow down Chambers street? 50 km/h on street where kids walk to G. Jay + cycle
twitter	#VicTownHall Like to see discussion about bringing sd61 to the table to discuss innovative joint use of school lands.
twitter	In #YYJ our community is ready for SCS. Thank you @CityOfVictoria for reflecting that priority in your draft strategic plan. #victownhall
twitter	#victownhall safe injection sites without regional/prov rehab and mental health programs to help break cycle of addiction is shortsighted
twitter	.@CityOfVictoria please make supervised consumption services a priority for #YYJ. Let's be #HarmReduction leaders! #VicTownHall #Yes2SCS
twitter	#victownhall needs to show a lead in Transit oriented living by having developers pay for density and exemptions with money for transit 1/2
twitter	Reminder #victownhall How much we give the #vicpd is a choice even if how they spend it isn't. 23% of our operating budget is too much.

Question Source	Question
twitter	@CityOfVictoria #victownhall Q: can fixed income property tax payers get grants to compensate for shift from taxes to utilities?
twitter	Phew warm here at #victownhall might there be a budget item for enhanced airflow in the council chambers? #yyjpoli
twitter	After my two months of often being the only one in the audience watching #viccouncil I must say WoW #VicTownHall #yyj http://t.co/RGMDpQ3bOC
twitter	Kudos to @CityOfVictoria for new & open #victownhall budget mtg. Huge turnout, social media friendly #yyjpoli
twitter	#VicTownHall is live now. Thanks for letting me participate from home!
twitter	.@CityOfVictoria engaging ppl in budget talk through Town Hall meeting, web streaming http://t.co/qtG0D1izbW , social media. #VicTownHall
twitter	#VicTownHall Reclaim our water. its community building. city open to thinking of storm water in a new way.mark the stream,streamreclamation
twitter	#VicTownHall reclaim water. Tertiary treatment of wastewater will reclaim water for use in daylighting streams
Web	(General) Provincial law requires that vehicles stay 1 m away from cyclists. While Victorians are generally very courteous to cyclists, there have been situations I have encountered on my bike where less then a meter clearance has been given by aggressive motorists. Has the Victoria police department been charged with watching out for this particular violation?
Web	(Mayor and Council) I would like to request (again) a pedestrian activated light at the crosswalk at Graham across Hillside. Two years ago we brought 600 names on a petition to council. We were told we could not "jump the queue" as there was a backlog of 20 years of approved crosswalks not yet funded. Can you commit to funding fully activated crosswalks as part of active transportation network?
Web	(Mayor and Council) In keeping with the active transport theme, would it be possible to put in a crosswalk on Foul Bay at Brighton Street? This spot is the crossing for the 7 km Centennial Trail Path. As things stand, people must jaywalk a wide road to access the Trail, which seems a bit absurd. Thank you for considering the question.
Web	(General) Will Council commit to an All Ages/All Abilities Bicycle Network? I'd like to share what happened as I left council chambers. As I unlocked my bike to go home with my child in her trailer a man I did not know offered me his bike light - clearly he didn't feel that reflective clothing, vests and no less than 7 lights were safe enough for me to travel home. Can we make the sustainable option safer?
Web	(General) France recently passed a law that requires all new building in commercial zones to have part of their building's roof covered in plants or solar panels. This serves to reduce CO2 emissions, absorb emissions from vehicles in the city, and utilize runoff. Would the City of Victoria consider enacting a similar by-law, and allocate funds to help businesses adapt to this change?
Web	(General) I'm a young person. Me and my fellow young-person peers advocate strongly for fossil fuel divestment as a strategy to meet the challenges of climate change on a municipal level. Tip of the hat to Councillors Isitt and Loveday for advocating for this already. Has staff investigated the feasibility and procedure of municipal divestment?
Web	(General) Council is elected to look after and be responsible to the city taxpayer money so maybe instead of listening to special interest groups and non-taxpayers LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE PAYING THE BILL reduce property taxes let the provincial govt work on solving the issues of poverty and homeless
Web	(General) Why is Mayor and Council considering any other opinions than city taxpayers? if people want an opinion or say what goes on in this city then they need to pay for that privilege! Look after the people who elected you and pay you! quit wasting money on social issues that fall under the jurisdiction of the provincial and federal govts, like homelessness.

Question Source	Question
Web	(Mayor and Council) Objective 2: 2015 Outcome: Improved relationship with nearby First Nations [ongoing]. 2015 Action: High Priority – please consider the formation of a Protocol Partnership Agreement as a starting point toward improving relationships with First Nations. This agreement to reach many areas to improve our host people's lives and future. thank you!
Web	(Mayor and Council) Install public washrooms in the Inner Harbour area. There is a need especially for events around the Causeway Area.
Web	(City Staff) Is the draft Boulevard Garden design guideline likely to change? I am currently in the planning stage of starting a boulevard garden, and am now not sure if there will be a significant shift in the City's thinking about how this space will be allowed to be used.
Web	(Mayor and Council) We need grow food rather than just flowers and flowering trees. City workers use mowers on boulevards whether or not the grass hit the blades. we could use them for food production instead. We have huge crews of city workers to collect leaves, with big vacuum trucks, guys with leaf blowers, little bobcats, while they could be collecting fruit from trees instead, if the city actually planted them
Web	(Mayor and Council) i've heard frank elsner publicly state that he'd like to see more funding for mental health supports rather than police spending a large part of their resources on this need. Will the city and police board re-allocate money from the police budget to supports like belongings storage at our place and health services for drug users as residents who live both indoors and outdoors are calling for?
Web	(Mayor and Council) Are you prepared for transformation from Personally Operated Vehicle (POV) to the Autonomously Operated (driverless) Vehicle (AOV)? The transition from POV to bicycle and two wheel scooter and motorcycle has overwhelmed some cities, including Paris. Please note this article on Autonomous Vehicle developments: https://www.dropbox.com/s/d5ji6e94pb1lnra/EV%20Driverless-ConfboardCan-Feb2015.pdf?dl=0
Web	(Mayor and Council) Overall Guiding Principles for Strategic Planning: Question: do you have a Performance Management system and how and by what standards system will you measure results and outcomes within budget guidelines?
Web	(Mayor and Council) By closing Rockland Road at Quadra, there is no left turn access from Fort St. To Fairfield Rd. This encourages drivers to make an illegal left turn at. Burnett. The closed portion of Rockland is seldom used by pedestrians I've Noticed as I go through the adjacent park daily.
Web	(Mayor and Council) Could a community bus be added to Fairfield Road so that residents living near Moss and Fairfield Road would'nt have to stay home in the evening because walking to Cook St. Is too far for seniors who don't drive? Secondly, as a cyclist,I think we should all have to obtain licences for our bikes so we can contribute to the cost of curbed bike lanes. Unsafe. riders could be reported by this id.
Web	(Mayor and Council) I would like the City to agree to building another skate park and more youth facilities such as bmx parks and basketball courts. I have been to many towns on the island and the rest of BC saw that they have more skate parks and are much smaller towns. Thank you, Section 22 George Jay School.
Web	(Mayor and Council) Within the current scheduling of the Local Area Planning (LAP) process, many areas of the City would be waiting until 2022–2042 for its implementation. Will you consider allocating a portion of the \$4.5 million surplus to hire additional Planning staff to expedite the LAP process?
Web	(General) Please make updating Local Area Plans a huge priority. The idea of streamlining and simplifying the planning process so that all neighbourhoods can get an updated plan sooner is a great approach. My neighbourhood, North Park, is struggling without a modern plan in light of significant social and development pressures and problems.

Question Source	Question
Web	(Mayor and Council) Better design of public space meets multiple goals: Rain gardens & trees = stormwater management & air/water purification. Edible perennial landscapes = decreased resource/\$\$ inputs, healthy ecosystems, affordable access to a more nutritious diet & longterm food security. Revitalizing public spaces encourages engaged community & active transportation. What's the plan for this in the next 5 years?
Web	(Mayor and Council) I walk downtown about 5 days a week. This is about clutter on sidewalks. Much is car-related- parking signs, parking meters, pay booths for parking & traffic lights- also there are trees & sandwich boards & poles & cafe sidewalk-seating. And other walkers too. Could the city make walking space consistent? And also, why do cyclists ride on roads but park on sidewalks, taking up sidewalk space?
Web	(Mayor and Council) What do you intend to do speed up the planning process to accomodate all the change mandated in the OCP. I understand from Victoria Strategic Planning and Citizen Engagement there is currently only 3 FTE's assigned to this project and only 4 plans possibly can be done by 2019.
Web	(General) Would council consider creating a innovative recreational space in the vacant lot next to Vic High school? In particular an outdoor pool that converts into an outdoor skating rink with retractable roof during winter months.
Web	(General) When are you going to update the Rockland Neighbourhood Plan and complete an updated heritage inventory so these assets can be protected
Web	(General) Is any of the funds allotted for downtown beautification being strategically aimed at certain areas of dt? More specifically, has there been any consideration towards Douglas St. Between Pandora and Johnston?
Web	(Mayor and Council) In regards to Mayor Helps and Staff comment that parking decals are available for farm deliveries, they are often not. I spent many years working on getting the most efficient small delivery vehicle for Caffè Fantastico and found that most are not eligible for commercial plates. I did succeed with a rare electric vehicle, but the rules are very prohibitive.
Web	(Mayor and Council) Leadership is about making HARD decisions, and ones which can be seen as limiting to some. Question today is, do you agree the city has an obligation to provide services BUT at the BEST price. Jobs around town can be done by the private sector once they prove they can do so at a lesser cost than city staff. That would include but not limited to - parks maintainance, curbs and gutters, garbage
Web	(Mayor and Council) The James Bay Senior Centre does not have funds to buy tables for table tennis. The James Bay Community School provides table tennis for 9 months of the year but it would be nice to have all year playing. Could the city provide funds to buy tables for summer use at the senior centre?
Web	(General) Hello Mayor Helps and Council. I wish to promote the synchronization of traffic lights to keep people in cars moving (particularly on Blanshard and Douglas). I believe it is also important to ensure appropriate traffic enforcement (for speeders) as well as cracking down on bad cyclist behaviour. I live in Victoria and cycle to work at Bay & Tyee and often see some poor cycling practices. Thank you
Web	(Mayor and Council) Council should not be looking for ways to spend the 'unallocated' \$4.5 million, but instead reduce taxes and pay for the increased cost of the bridge, rather than reducing the reserve fund even more. Do you support such an approach, and if not, why not. Thanks.
Web	(General) The problem with this town hall is you are allowing everyone to have a say the only persons whom should be allowed to voice their opinion is CITY TAXPAYERS put the 4.5 million back to reducing our property taxes