

# STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION – ACTIONS AND OUTCOMES Tuesday, February 3, 2015

**OBJECTIVE #1: Enhance and Steward Green Space and Food Systems** 

**2015 ACTION:** Invest in Begbie Green, Ships Point, and Greenspace in other "have-not" park

neighbourhoods. Create a micro-giant for volunteer coordination of our

commons and community gardens.

**2016 ACTION:** Work through draft policy to bring on three high profile pilot projects.

Address deer as an issue.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Boulevard garden opportunities are seen in all neighbourhoods.

**2018 OUTCOME**: Greenspace, parks and food systems that are enhanced, well-maintained

and fully utilized.

**2015 ACTION:** Invest in Begbie Green, Ships Point, and Greenspace in other "have-not" park

neighbourhoods. Create a micro-giant for volunteer coordination of our

commons and community gardens.

**2016 ACTION:** Complete at least two of the "special sites" along the David Foster Harbour

Pathway corridor.

**2017 OUTCOME**: Community wellness and economic vitality with opening of waterfront park at

Ships Point.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Done something interesting (and potentially interim) with Ships Point that

points it to a better use than parking lots.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Increase parks space including development of Ships Point.

**2017 OUTCOME:** David Foster Harbour Pathway will be celebrated for its way finding that links

all harbour front developments.

## OBJECTIVE #1: Enhance and Steward Green Space and Food Systems (Cont'd)

**2015 ACTION:** Commit to high-quality park and festival site at Ships Point. Consult public

on specific design, and complete work with capital budget.

**2016 ACTION:** Hold a place making activity at Ships Point to further flesh out the site plan in

the Harbour Principles. Allocate money in 2018 capital budget to complete.

**2017 OUTCOME**: Community wellness and economic vitality with opening of waterfront park at

Ships Point.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Done something interesting (and potentially interim) with Ships Point that

points it to a better use than parking lots.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Increase parks space including development of Ships Point.

**2017 OUTCOME:** David Foster Harbour Pathway will be celebrated for its way finding that links

all harbour front developments.

**2015 ACTION:** Identify opportunities to link to City budget (Parks Master Plan).

**2015 ACTION:** Complete Parks Master Plan.

**2015 ACTION**: Create inventory of City-owned land for food production and partner with

citizens and groups to increase cultivation.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Enhance recreational opportunities and ecoustial plotcution and green space

through implementation with multi-year funding of Parks Master Plan.

2016 OUTCOME: Increased food security and resilience with increased food production on City-

owned land – does not mean in parks.

**2015 ACTION:** Look to see how Vancouver was able to create garden on Davies Street and

replicate model.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Allotment/community garden on private property downtown.

**2016 ACTION:** Dog Park – Begin process to identify locations, best practices, and move

forwards having one opened.

**2016 OUTCOME:** A fenced dog park is created in an existing park.

## **OBJECTIVE #2: Striving for Excellence in Planning and Land Use**

**2015 ACTION:** Hire the best City planners in Canada to lead our Planning Department.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Enliven public space. Make Victoria a people-centered place.

2015 ACTION: Identify as staff priority in Planning Department: Local Area Planning focused

on urban villages and transportation corridors.

**2016 OUTCOME**: Local Area Planning focused on urban villages and transportation corridors.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Create a O.P/Heritage Conservation Area on Dallas Road between Cook

Street and Clover Point.

**2015 ACTION:** Identify as a staff priority: Work through planning process to deliver

acceptable form and density for proponent and community.

**2016 ACTION:** Work through planning process to deliver acceptable form and density for

proponent and community.

**2016 OUTCOME:** South Block is through Phase 1.

**2015 ACTION:** Establish predictable flat fee per square metre fee for bonus density.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Streamline land use policies.

**2015 ACTION:** Make a decision with regard to whether we are going to delegate more

decision-making authority to staff.

**2015 ACTION:** Empower the City Manager to make/lead the changes required to streamline

our processes at City Hall.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Reduced processing time for all types of applications from building permit to

rezoning.

## **OBJECTIVE #2: Striving for Excellence in Planning and Land Use (Cont'd)**

**2015 ACTION:** Increased emphasis on place making in our planning. Including active

transportation impacts listed in all planning and land use.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Enliven public space. Make Victoria a people-centered place.

**2016 ACTION:** Complete the Douglas/Blanshard Corridor Master Plan and allocate funds in

Financial Plan for quality-of-life infrastructure.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Housing, employment and economic boom in Douglas/Blanshard Corridor

through incorporation of Master Plan, with substantial new low-cost units,

mixed use, and quality-of-life infrastructure.

## **OBJECTIVE #3: Facilitate Social Inclusion and Community Wellness**

**2015 ACTION:** The City facilitates a collaboration among Island Health, VicPD, YES2SCS,

and City of Victoria to create supervised consumption services embedded

in a continuum of health care services including harm reduction.

**2015 ACTION:** The City facilitates a collaboration among Island Health, VicPD, YES2SCS,

and City of Victoria to create supervised consumption services embedded in a continuum of health care services including harm reduction. (Repeated)

**2016 ACTION:** A Councillor-led process with occasional staff contributions as required for

specific issue-based advice; e.g. land use, zoning, maintenance, etc.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Create accessible health services for Victoria's most marginalized people.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Create accessible health services for Victoria's most marginalized.

**2015 ACTION:** Complete public consultation and then re-invest in our public pool and fitness

centre.

**2015 ACTION**: Consult public on desired enhancement to Crystal pool and tender

improvements by Q1 2016.

**2016 ACTION:** Invest in public pool and fitness facility.

**2016 ACTION:** Work through Facilities Assessment and community engagement ... and seek

out possible funding partners.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Crystal Pool will have identified future and appropriate funding.

**2017 OUTCOME**: Crystal Pool issues are resolved.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Increase City revenue and recreational opportunities with refurbished

Crystal Pool.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Enhance quality of life.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Victoria will have a modern, inclusive public pool and fitness facility.

**2017/2018 ACTION:** Initiative discussions with YMCA to explore possibility of a common downtown

pool and recreation facility delivery many programs.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Public recreation and cultural facilities are first rate because they are provided

efficiently.

## OBJECTIVE #3: Facilitate Social Inclusion and Community Wellness (Cont'd)

**2015 ACTION:** Increase number of subsidized housing units. Deepen partnerships. Lobby

upper levels of government and increase investment in the housing trust fund.

**2015 ACTION:** Continue to keep this as a focus and work with partners to create/identify

opportunities.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Victoria will be closer to ending chronic homelessness.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Coalition to End Homelessness completes its mandate to end homelessness.

**2016 ACTION:** Continue collaborating with Vic High on new/upgraded school and community

sports facility at Vic High. Expect \$ expenditure in 2016.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Create opportunities for accessible sports and fitness by children and adults.

**2016 ACTION:** Seniors centres increased programming options that are not pirated and

competitive.

**2018 OUTCOME:** City's seniors facilities will grow their memberships by 50%.

## **OBJECTIVE #4: Create Prosperity Through Economic Development**

**2015 ACTION:** Create an Economic Development Task Force (Mayor-led, few staff

resources), to advise on the set up of an Economic Development Office.

(Economic reserve fund can fund start-up of office.) Will need business plan to

show viability.

**2015 ACTION:** Gathered a diverse group of people (15) to form an Economic Development

Task Force.

**2015 ACTION:** Task Force created with actions for downtown business attraction and

retention.

**2015 ACTION**: Complete Municipal Incomes Strategy.

**2015/2016 OUTCOME:** Set up of Economic Development Office, some such body to do

economic development.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Downtown will be the hub of both large and small business.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Reduced retail and commercial vacancies downtown.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Strengthened our relationship with the Provincial and Federal governments.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Improve health, consumer purchasing power, and social solidarity with

implementation of Municipal Incomes Strategy.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Work closely with our two largest economic drivers: 1) Tech sector

and 2) Tourism.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Victoria is the heart of commerce and business in the Region.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Taxpayers and businesses perceive tax levels fair and reasonable.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Increased media income from \$28,000 to something more livable.

**2016 ACTION:** Invite them (Sister City delegations) for 2017 "Canada 150" events.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Victoria will have hosted delegations from each of our Sister City partners.

**2016 ACTION:** Create and implement a plan to revitalize and brand Douglas Street as our

"Main Street".

**2017 OUTCOME:** Downtown vibrancy – a draw for visitors and residents alike.

### **OBJECTIVE #5: Complete a Multi-Modal and Active Transportation Network**

**2015 ACTION:** Develop task force including property owners - ? Local Area Improvement

Project.

**2015 OUTCOME:** Extend Government Street Mall.

**2015 ACTION:** Form Transportation Advisory Committee and implement a Transportation

Planning Bylaw, mandating collaborating neighbourhood process and

"complete streets" lens for all projects.

2015/2016 OUTCOME: Improve quality of life, public safety, air quality, place making, and

pedestrian and cycling trips through implementation of neighbourhood-led transportation planning and "complete streets" lens for all transportation

projects.

**2015 ACTION:** Designate location for E&N station as close as possible to the new bridge.

**2016 ACTION:** Move to full-time bus lanes on Douglas and fewer stops (in accordance

with Rapid Bus plans).

**2016 OUTCOME:** Public transit is available to all and rivals private automobile speed.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Walking is safe, comfortable and enjoyable.

**2015 ACTION:** Collaborative design and completion of network of 4-8 high quality cycling

corridors by 2016.

**2015 ACTION:** Build protected cycling facilities, more bike parking, and start an Active

Transportation Advisory Committee. Begin to see all planning/xx through

multi-modal lense.

**2015 ACTION:** Designate money in 2015, 2016, 2017 and just build it (cycling network).

**2016 OUTCOME:** Substantial increase in the number of trips by bicycles, with the completion of

a skeletal cycling network.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Victoria is a national leader for cycling infrastructure and complete streets

planning with a completed cycling network.

## **OBJECTIVE #5: Complete a Multi-Modal and Active Transportation Network (Cont'd)**

**2016 ACTION:** Belleville and David Foster Harbour Pathway - Identify financial opportunities

to move this forward.

**2016 ACTION:** Belleville Terminal – Work with partners to find financial support for this.

**2016 ACTION:** Work in partnership with ferry operators, First Nations and Province. City has

role to play in Belleville Phase 2. Allocate money in 2017 Capital Budget for

Belleville Street.

**2017 ACTION:** Prioritize sites and identify funding opportunities (waterfront walkway).

**2017 OUTCOME:** Completion of waterfront walkway.

**2017 OUTCOME:** David Foster Way almost completed.

**2017/2018 OUTCOME:** Belleville Terminal will be completed.

2017/2018 OUTCOME: Completed Phase 1 / 2 of the Belleville Terminal Project. Phase 2 =

David Foster Way improvements to Belleville Street public realm.

**2016 ACTION:** Sign pedestrian only lanes just as prominently as streets. Distinguish between

"No Exit" and "No Exit for Motor Vehicles".

**2016 ACTION:** Review policy for desired right of way widths for road dedications and statutory

right of ways.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Walking is safe, comfortable and enjoyable.

**2017 ACTION:** Keep the (Johnson Street Bridge) process moving forward and support staff.

**2017 OUTCOME:** Johnson Street Bridget is complete.

## **OBJECTIVE #6: Engage and Empower the Community**

**2015 ACTION:** Create Councillor liaison position/role to reach out and work with Esquimalt

and Songhees Nations.

**2015 OUTCOME:** Improve relationship with nearby First Nations. (Ongoing)

**2015 ACTION:** Make open government actions routine – require automatic posting of reports,

etc. (Create and implement a plan and timeline for open government

enhancements.)

**2018 OUTCOME:** Transparent government.

**2015 ACTION:** Identify dedicated staff to work with CAs (community associations) to inform,

collaborate, educate CA Boards and staff on City processes, expectations and

opportunities.

**2015 ACTION**: Create "great neighbourhoods initiative" based on Edmonton's model, amend

to fit our local circumstances.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Build capacity of neighbourhood/community associations. (Ongoing)

**2016 OUTCOME:** Empowered neighbourhood residents, place makers and others to lead and

implement projects.

**2015 ACTION:** Utilize online tools, established youth networks and learn from other cities to

improve the City's youth engagement.

**2017 OUTCOME:** More youth are engaged in city programs, civic issues, and the broader

community. (Ongoing)

**2016 ACTION:** Participatory budgeting. Be engaged in a meaningful two-way conversation

with staff.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Rebuilt trust with the public in terms of meaningful public engagement.

## **OBJECTIVE #7: Enhance Council's Governance and Practices**

Note: Actions and Outcomes were moved to appear under other Objectives.

#### **OBJECTIVE #8: Make Victoria More Affordable**

**2015 ACTION:** Increase City contribution to Affordable Housing Trust Funds. Lobby other

cities to do the same.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Create more affordable housing.

**2015 ACTION:** Complete Municipal Housing Strategy, include income mixed zoning.

**2015 ACTION:** Form an Affordable Housing Task Force to research and analyze innovative

housing policy solutions. Looking at zoning, bylaws, and specifically at

inclusionary zoning. To be implemented this term.

**2015 ACTION:** Work with developers, BC Housing, and private sector landlords. Think and

act outside the box. Be willing to pilot new ideas, e.g. Inclusive zoning, tax

exemption.

**2016 OUTCOME:** Substantial increase in construction of new low-cost housing units with

implementation of income-mixed zoning.

2017/2018 OUTCOME: Increased the range of affordable housing not only for those in need of

supports but also for regular working people.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Increased affordable housing stock, specifically rental.

**2018 OUTCOME:** 250 new garden suites are in process.

**2015 ACTION:** Limit annual property taxes to maximum; the rate of inflation plus 1%.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Increase affordability and fairness.

**2016 ACTION:** Drive more garden suites and secondary suites through an incentive program.

**2016 ACTION:** Look to re-instituting incentives for suites.

**2018 OUTCOME:** 250 new garden suites are in process.

**2016 ACTION:** Continue to push for a National Housing Strategy. Consideration of a CRD

Housing Levy.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Increased affordable housing stock, specifically rental.

## **OBJECTIVE #9: Build the Financial Capacity of the Organization**

2015 ACTION: Complete and implement Municipal Property Acquisition and

Management Strategy.

**2015 ACTION:** Create an integrated facilities and real estate arm at City Hall or in Economic

Development Office staffed by people who understand business and the

market.

**2015 OUTCOME:** Substantially more revenue and strategic influence for City with

implementation of Municipal Property Acquisition and Management Strategy.

**2015 ACTION:** Complete a full long-term infrastructure and facilities assessment. Move

forward with Real Estate Management Plan including property acquisition and

investment.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Maximized and where possible (e.g. School Districts and City lands)

consolidated City-owned assets and put these to best and highest use

including market rate commercial leases.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Full catalogue and list of long-term investment costs/profits for infrastructure

and facilities. Increased revenue from property.

# OBJECTIVE #10: Plan for Emergencies Including Climate Change Short and Long-Term

**2016 ACTION:** Consider a requirement to upgrade heritage buildings for seismic protection

even where use is not changed, combined with subsidy program.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Our heritage buildings will survive a major earthquake. (Ongoing)

**2016 ACTION:** Plans to move fire hall forward, worked on and completed.

**2018 OUTCOME:** Fire hall issues are resolved.

**2016 ACTION:** Align VEMA's budget through Victoria Fire Department and work with

Planning.

**2017 OUTCOME:** City will have increased the capacity of VEMA.

**2017 ACTION:** Review drainage systems in low-lying areas of City in light of ocean rise.

Adjust base building elevations as needed.

**2075 OUTCOME:** Year 2075 – Our low-lying areas will be protected from flooding.

## **OBJECTIVE #11: Nurture Our Arts, Culture and Learning Capital**

2015 ACTION: Embark upon development of a Cultural Master Plan.

2015 ACTION: Embark upon development of Art Culture Master Plan.

2015 ACTION: Identify staff resources required (to development plan).

2016 ACTION: Create an Arts and Culture Master Plan for Victoria.

2016 OUTCOME: Cultural Master Plan.

2016 OUTCOME: Arts and Culture Master Plan.

2017 OUTCOME: Establish an Arts Centre as cultural hub.

2018 OUTCOME: Support for arts and culture will be increased, inclusive and strategic.

2015 ACTION: Identify scope and develop budget strategy (for a new Central Library).

2017 OUTCOME: New Central Library.

2015 ACTION: Support the 2015 event (WCMA/BOW with Rifflandia) and fund an Economic

Impact Study linked to a Cultural Master Plan.

2018 OUTCOME: Successful WCMA/BOW event with Rifflandia will see Region being asked to

bid for the JUNOS.

2015 ACTION: Work with the CRD to increase number of funding partners for

McPherson Theatre.

2015 OUTCOME: Increase number of funding partners for the McPherson Theatre.

**OBJECTIVE #12: Innovate and Lead** 

**2015 ACTION**: Be bold.

#### MISCELLANEOUS - To be allocated

## Pink Stickie (Big dream idea):

Deliver affordable public services.

### **Orange Stickies (Look to for Best Practices):**

- Almost every other city in North American and Europe Sewage treatment system.
- Madison Water quality, can swim downtown
- Saanich Collection of organics and leaf pick-up
- Malmo
- Surrey (among others) Efficient and convenient collection of recycling, garbage and garden waste within a single system.

#### **Green Stickies (Action):**

- Support the amalgamation process.
- Continue discussion on sewage treatment options.
- Begin the discussion of sewage treatment sites for different treatment options.
- Figure out how to collect recyclables in closed wheeled totes. Make garbage <u>less</u> convenient, not more.

#### Purple Stickie (Outcome):

 To support and work with the Province of British Columbia in the study of the potential for amalgamation in the Region with the intention of putting a recommendation in front of the public.