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OCP & Zoning Bylaw review: Revised plan for Quinsam Heights, open house June 22

Public comments on updating the Official Community Plan related to Quinsam Heights has developed a refined plan for the neighbourhood – and the next opportunity for people to review and comment on the Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw review will be June 22.

In late April and early May, the City hosted a series of public events to gather community and stakeholder feedback and input on early policy directions for the Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw review. More than 200 people participated, by taking part in a policy workshop, or the design session for Quinsam Heights, attending a public open house and providing feedback through the online questionnaire.

“Building on the feedback and ideas from the first public open house, these events took a closer look at the changes needed to achieve the community’s overall goals,” says Kevin Brooks, the City’s development services supervisor.

Participants worked closely with planners and designers to examine and refine policy ideas for secondary dwellings, highway commercial properties, commercial centres, and development permit guidelines as well as directions for the future of the Quinsam Heights neighbourhood.

“Feedback from participants was generally supportive of the proposed policy updates with a few suggestions for improvement,” Brooks notes. *“Some interesting ideas were raised during discussions, such as the idea of a grittier, mixed-use identity for Campbellton – like Tin Town in Courtenay – to accommodate the mix of commercial, industrial and affordable housing while retaining the area’s unique character and history.”*

The design session on Quinsam Heights drew participation from a diverse range of community members including farmers, representatives from local environmental groups, owners of large properties, developers and other residents. Their contributions, along with input from the open house and questionnaire, was used to create a strong revised plan for the neighbourhood.

A detailed summary of feedback is available at campbellriver.ca/OCPreview.

“This input will be used to refine these early directions into draft policies for the updated Official Community Plan,” Brooks adds. *“We will bring these back for review and comment before they are finalized and presented to Council. People will also have an opportunity to attend a public hearing before the final updated Official Community Plan is approved. Then, we will move on to the next stage, updating the Zoning Bylaw. Again, there will be many opportunities for people to get involved and share ideas and feedback.”*

Next consultation event: June 22 at the Sportsplex (Room 1). Drop in any time from 6 to 9 p.m. to review and comment on the refined draft policies.

For information about the project, visit the project web page at campbellriver.ca/OCPreview for more information and to sign up for email updates about events and activities.

People are also welcome to contact the City’s Community Planning and Development Services Department at 250-286-5725.

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Photo by Kevin Brooks

