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Public hearing held to consider secondary suite on Nancy Greene Drive

One person spoke in favour during a public hearing held to consider an application to permit retention of an existing secondary suite within a single-family dwelling at 789 Nancy Greene Drive. A letter of support was received following a neighbourhood meeting.

If approved, the owners would be required to apply for building permits and complete necessary upgrades to legalize the secondary suite.

In accordance with the B.C. Building Code, secondary suites have construction requirements, including but not limited to the following regulations:

- must have a floor space less than 40 per cent of the habitable floor space of the building
- must be no larger than 90 square metres (968 square feet);
- have sound proofing from the main portion of the house
- have a minimum ceiling height
- must have fire separation from the main portion of the house
- adequately sized windows and doors for egress
- interconnected smoke alarms and
- upgrades to the HVAC system

The City's Sustainable Official Community Plan (SOCP) sets out principles to maintain and improve residential areas while providing a range of housing types. The rezoning proposal is consistent with SOCP objectives to increase the stock of rental housing and allows for better use of existing infrastructure.

Council gave first and second reading of a rezoning application on July 16.

Council approves ticketing for noxious weeds, invasive plants and unsightly vegetation

Council approved amendments to the ticketing bylaw that sets out penalties at \$250 for each offense related to noxious weeds and invasive plants. Offenses include:

- Planting noxious weeds or invasive plants
- Failure to keep property clear of noxious weeds and invasive plants
- Failure to remove unsightly vegetation on a regular basis or when ordered to do so

Noxious weeds and invasive plants regulated under the Environmental Protection bylaw include: giant hogweed, yellow flag iris, Scotch broom and knotweeds (bohemian, giant, Himalayan and Japanese).

City staff work with community partners to educate and remove invasive plant species and noxious weeds.

2018-2019 BC Transit operating agreement approved

The City's annual operating agreement with BC Transit was approved. Through the City's partnership with BC Transit and the operating company, Watson & Ash, Campbell River's transit system consistently out-performs other communities with populations between 20,000 and 50,000 people. Campbell River's transit system serves the highest number of passengers per hour and runs at the lowest cost per ride as well as the lowest overall operating cost per hour of service provided.

Trial 40 km/hour zones coming to two residential areas

Council approved two neighbourhoods as areas to lower the speed limit to 40 kilometres per hour for improved safety and livability. Signs will be posted over the next month in the North Penfield and Cheviot Road areas, and staff will provide an assessment of the effects of lower speeds – including feedback from local residents – to Council in the spring.

The two trial areas were chosen because they both require few sign changes, with costs covered by the City's current roads budget. Also, these neighbourhoods are accessed through local

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streets experience with low traffic volumes and relatively low speeds. These neighbourhoods also contain existing school zones, playground zones or bike routes. RCMP have been consulted and support the change. The City's website will be updated and information will be published in a *City Currents* ad in the *Campbell River Mirror* newspaper.

Financial Plan amendments – increased project funding without additional taxation

To support completion of two approved capital projects, Council endorsed a funding increase from the Community Works Fund Reserve, rather than property taxation, for:

- the Robron Field House (from \$322,285 to \$622,285)
- the 3.5-acre site walkway (from \$500,000 to \$600,000) – another link in the planned Greenways Loop around Campbell River, and enhancement to the existing seawalk and a pedestrian connection to Tyee Spit and Dick Murphy Park.

Council also incorporated additional grant funding for two items in the 2018-2017 Financial Plan, with no impact on property taxation.

- Thanks to grant funding from the Federal Airport Capital Assistance Program, the Airport Snow Blower Budget changed from \$40,000 to \$420,000 (to include \$380,000 grant funding)
- A budget change from \$70,000 to \$177,000 for community energy efficiency programs is funded from the City's Carbon Neutral Reserve. Projects will include:
 - Energy Step Code Builder's Workshops/Training and Incentive Program (developed in partnership with BC Hydro)
 - Home Energy Retrofit Incentive Program (offered in partnership with BC Hydro, Fortis BC, City Green, and the Province)
 - DC Fast Charger Electric Vehicle Project
 - Local Business profiling program and Facebook campaign – focused on building energy efficiency
 - Development of a corporate green building policy

2018 downtown food truck pilot program survey results

Council received results of the Downtown Food Truck Pilot Program Survey and consultation process, which indicated significant/general community support for this proposed pilot program, and provided suggestions for potential requirements and regulations.

Feedback was provided through an online survey as well as surveys and interviews with 14 downtown restaurant owners, 11 of which were within the proposed pilot program boundary. The majority of downtown restaurant businesses indicated support for the pilot program.

Council also received a summary of Chamber of Commerce survey results also demonstrated generated general support for a downtown food truck pilot program.

Invitation to host future AVICC convention

Council received an invitation to host the 2020 or 2021 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Annual Convention. Campbell River hosted the convention in 2017, and Council referred the invitation to the Tourism Advisory Committee and Destination Campbell River for feedback.

Small change in right direction for homelessness in Campbell River

Council received BC's Homeless Action Plan Report from the Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing and the Minister of Social Development & Poverty Reduction, which included counts, demographics and service needs of people experiencing homelessness. Compared against the survey commissioned last fall by the City of Campbell River, slightly higher numbers of people were sheltered during the spring survey.