

Hillside Quadra Neighbourhood Action Group
Monday June 1st, 7pm at Quadra Village Community Centre

1. **Welcome to All Present** – Introductions made, 19 attendees
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Approved as circulated with amendment that #8 is moved to #15
3. **Approval of May 2015 Meeting Minutes** – Approved as circulated
4. **City of Victoria Staff** – Lucina Baryluk, Senior Process Planner, Marc Cittone, Senior Planner, Community Planning and Alexander Angus, Transportation Planner

Lucina, the Community Planner for South Jubilee, Hillside-Quadra and Oaklands communities, thanked all for coming and gave an overview of the general development process and some of the current pending developments and answered questions. Replying to a question about 955 Hillside, Lucina stated that the 955 Hillside development Development Cost Charges contribution rate is set at \$23/m² of floor area, though this can support sewers or other initiatives and is not tied to the Hillside Quadra area.

Marc gave an overview of larger city-wide planning including the Official Community Plan and local area plans noting that the projection is for an increase of 20,000 or more residents over the next 20-30 years. Marc passed around the Hillside-Quadra Strategic Directions (Map 25). This high level document is meant to be refined by a local area plan (LAP). While the OCP is a city bylaw, the local area plan has less legal weight but is still considered in planning decisions. Key questions that Quadra Village residents should consider in preparation for the local area plan process:

Does the community want to see development in the Quadra village?

What type of amenities do you want to see (funded by developer contributions)?

Currently Marc is working on the Burnside Gorge plan which he will come out and discuss with us in a meeting June 15th: 6:15 PM in the Quadra Village Community Centre. The goal is to complete all urban village planning during the term of this council (2014-2018). We would anticipate that the Hillside-Quadra area would be the next urban village, with planning perhaps starting as early as next year.

Concern was expressed that our whole community local area plan not be lost or weakened by a new plan which appears to be focussed on the large (Quadra & Hillside) and small (Tolmie & Quadra) urban villages. Marc noted that the urban and traditional residential area are not anticipated to be areas of great change relative to the urban village areas.

Concern was expressed about the barrier that Hillside Ave presents to residential foot traffic wishing to cross to the large urban village.

Alexander talked a bit about Hillside and the effects of lower speed limit signage. Design treatments to slow down Hillside (in general for straight roads) is largely either curves or bumps, as drivers tend to drive at the speed they feel comfortable with regardless of posted signage. Raising pedestrian crossings or bumps or shifting lanes would help. Lucina advised residents to request that council make Hillside a priority if that is their wish.

5. **Victoria Foundation Neighbourhood Grant** – Sasha Gronsdahl and Carol Hall Carol gave a brief overview of the Victoria Foundation's scope of activity and reminded the community that the annual vital signs survey is currently open for input. The Victoria Foundation is looking to pilot a neighbourhood small grant program in the Hillside - Quadra neighbourhood, based on a similar program offered via the Vancouver Foundation which has co-sponsored this pilot. Sasha gave a summary of how this program works with grants of \$50-\$500 (occasionally up to \$1,000) in partnership with the local community centre to facilitate the program. Residents (individuals not organisations) may apply with at least one co-applicant and a neighbourhood committee of local resident volunteers will assess applications. Block

parties and book boxes are common examples for first year grants that help bring residents together. There was general support for this pilot program.

6. Summit Avenue Sidewalks – Alexander Angus from City of Victoria
Alexander handed out diagrams laying out the two options he came to discuss for adding a sidewalk along one side of Summit from Blackwood to Jackson. The options were either along the North or South side of Summit. Some speed issues and parking issues were identified previously. Residential parking and traffic calming were considered. On average 5 cars were parked on street so additional parking is planned in either option, with the North option having slightly more parking. A resident pointed out that the CRD is planning to improve the paths around the reservoir so there may be an opportunity to connect the sidewalk to the reservoir. The North option could also connect with the Jackson sidewalk which would lead to the Finlayson bus route. The South side option would leave the current paved North side path until it eroded or became unsafe. A show of hands overwhelmingly preferred the North side option.

7. City Hall Update – Ben Isitt (regrets)

8. Neighbourhood Initiative – Jenny reminded all that there will be a June 10th development meeting for 2740 Fifth Street.

9. Quadra Village Days – NAG participation update and survey update

Due to a single volunteer at the table survey participation was decreased but neighbourhood engagement was positive. Conversations covered 955 Hillside, traffic, pedestrian crossings, lack of 30km school zone at Ecole Quadra School and more.

10. Land Use Update – 955 Hillside- Survey from Healthy Community
The Healthy Neighbourhood Working Group table had 141 responses to a survey on the 955 Hillside development. The next Healthy Neighbourhood Working Group meeting is Wednesday June 3rd and 4 PM in the Community centre.

11. Greenspace/Parks Update – Summit Park Pathways/Stairs Quick Update
The city approved \$107,000 for pathway and stairs upgrades this year. Another \$104,000 has been budgeted for finishing pathways around the reservoir for completion next year.

12. NAG Admin – Liaison from Board. Cheryl A. has agreed to be the Board Liaison.

13. Brief Misc. Neighbourhood Update (community news, business news)
Cheryl is following up with having the school zone signs refreshed on Quadra street in front of Ecole Quadra.

14. Upcoming meetings

- a. Victoria Council: June 11 and 25, 7:00
- b. Police Board: June 23, 5:00
- c. DBAC Board meeting: June 15, 5:30.
- d. **NAG: September 14 7:00.** Chair: Jenny F. Minute Taker: Janis L.

15. Action List Report – Janis will follow up over the summer on the noise bylaw and Rowena did contact the City regarding liquor laws.

16. Reminders: Joining the NAG email group / Becoming a member of the DBAC

17. Close of meeting

To join our email list and receive neighbourhood updates contact nag@quadravillagecc.com.

Messages can be left at 250 388 7696 ext 301.