

DRA Board Meeting Agenda

June 18, 2024

Location: Zoom

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Present: Sandra Severs (President), Jeremy Zhao (Vice President), Michael Demakiling, Dawn Moorhead, Ian Sutherland, Furkan Kucukdurmaz, Jordan Royer, Mano Majumdar, Neil McKinnon, Sherry Lee (Secretary)

City Council Liaison: Dave Thompson

DRA Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator: James Davis

5:30 p.m. Call to Order, Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Approval of Agenda

5:35 p.m. Councillor Update: Dave Thompson

Updates:

- Council was on break due to Federation of Canadian Municipalities meeting in Calgary.
- Family oriented housing incentive policy passed to establish new targets for housing types, including increased proportion of family-oriented housing. Planned evaluation schedule in place.
- Crystal Pool project: anticipate 2 referenda to determine 1) whether to borrow money and 2) location of a new development.
- Service hub for unhoused population: development intends to take pressure off Pandora Ave. The service hub as a municipal initiative temporarily fills gaps under provincial jurisdiction on the issue. The City expects the Province to support via additional funding and solutions in future.
- Rapid bus: 3 sections along Douglas St. Committing 24/7 bus lanes in northern (north of Fisgard) section in each direction. Middle section to have designated bus lanes in each direction; the lanes will be 2nd lane from the curb to enable parking along street (anticipated completion 2025/26). Lower section ends at Humbolt/Belleville location as rapid bus hub.
- Collaborative solutions for community safety: Input include results from larger survey. Report to be presented to council in Oct 2024.
- Parkade garden proposal: DRA is awaiting city's response. Councillor indicated he had urged city to provide more active communication on status of the considerations.

Discussion:

- Dawn raised ongoing discussion on requiring "zero waste" programming for My Great Neighbourhood grant recipients.

Action: Dave will follow up and get information –

5:55 p.m. Executive Report: Sandra (report attached)

Action: Board to review and provide revisions as needed to Letter re. Craft Beer Market license, supporting Mermaid Wharf. **UPDATE: Letter sent.**

- 6:05 p.m. Standing Committee Reports – Q and A**
- **Urban Livability Committee (ULC) and Urban Ecology and Agriculture Committee (UEC):** Michael/Colby (report attached)
 - Downtown Coolkit (Dawn) Report attached
 - **Communications and Membership Committee (CMC):** Doug (report attached)
 - **Governance Committee:** Jeremy (no report)
 - Provided verbal update:
 - Board orientation planned
 - Financial policy review and maintenance.
 - Charity status work in progress
 - **Land Use Committee (LUC):** Ian/Jordan (report attached)
 - **Community Engagement Committee (CEC):** Furkan (report attached)

- 6:25 p.m. External Meeting Reports – Q and A**
- **Victoria Community Association Network (VCAN):** Sandra/Ian (report attached)
 - **900 Pandora Good Neighbour Group:** Sandra (no report)
 - Provided verbal update due to limited time for report preparation.
 - Pulling together new operating agreement on this group, including VIHA, police, Our Place , North Park Neighbourhood Association, DRA, and others.
 - Zoning bylaw change proposal discussed in light of motion going to Council
 - **Greater Victoria Harbour Authority Community Liaison Committee:** Doug (no report)

- 6:30 p.m. Other Business**
- Quarterly meeting with Mayor. Board discussed approach for record keeping and follow up on issues.

7:30 p.m. Meeting concludes

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 5:30pm

Executive Committee Report – June 2024

Track it Forward - A reminder to Board members to start using the Track it Forward app which will give us a clear sense of volunteer hours committed to the work of the DRA. If you have questions about the use of the app, please be in touch with Doug.

Awakening Chinatown event- On Sunday, May 26th, Sandra attended the VIP reception on behalf of the Board receiving a tour of the Fan Tan Hotel at 545 ½ Fisgard Street. Information about the hotel can be found at: www.fantanhotel.com. Mayor Alto, Councillor Gardiner and MLA Grace Lore were among the dignitaries present.

Wiser Projects – Our work with Wiser Projects concluded with a final meeting between Rebecca Mersereau and Sandra to discuss the agenda for the June 17th meeting with Mayor Alto on the OCP review. Rebecca Mersereau is relocating to New Brunswick this month and will no longer be part of the team at Wiser.

Community Safety and Wellbeing – As part of the City’s commitment to seizing opportunities to respond to the homelessness crisis, an announcement was made on Friday, June 14th that a community hub will be created at 2155 Dowler Street to respond to the needs of folk who remain unhoused. While not located in the Downtown neighbourhood, it is hoped that the hub will alleviate some of the pressure on services on Pandora Avenue. Operated by SOLID, the site will focus wrap-around services on those who are currently under-served by the non-profit sector. SOLID is currently operating a drop-in at 930 Pandora.

Letters sent – A letter has been sent to Mayor and Council supporting a proposal for an expanded version of Symphony Splash requested by the Victoria Symphony. A letter raising concerns about the upcoming We Unify conference has also been sent. A letter supporting the concerns of the Mermaid Wharf Condo building about the request for changes to the Craft Beer Market liquor license and the ongoing problems of unreasonable noise levels interrupting sleep has also been sent to Mayor and Council.

**Urban Livability Committee
and
Urban Ecology and Agriculture Committee
Reports**

Victoria Downtown Residents Association

June 18, 2024

Urban Livability Committee

Introduction

Here are some updates on activities and upcoming events by the Urban Livability Committee. We will be enhancing Pandora Day by including art activities and focusing on sustainability, with the goal of making the event zero waste. Our recent Naloxone Training event at the Dock - Centre for Social Impact was a success, and we are looking forward to the next session on July 24th. Lastly, we are thrilled to announce our participation in the Victoria Pride Parade on Sunday, July 7th, reflecting our dedication to inclusivity, diversity, and community engagement. We believe in celebrating and supporting all residents and are proud to stand with the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

Updates

Pandora Day - Thursday, August 08, 2024: Updates

The event planners are looking to incorporate art activities to enhance Pandora Day's activities. Heather from NSUN will contact Mackenzie (Community Development and Administration Coordinator with the North Park Neighbourhood Association) to possibly host an activity. Along with the Victoria Coolkit, current planning is being done to acquire cutlery, plates, and glasses to help make the event zero-waste.

Naloxone Training - Monday, May 27, 2024: Updates

We had another successful Naloxone Training event with 11 attendees and distributed 16 kits at the Dock - Centre for Social Impact. The next session is scheduled for July 24th from 6 to 7 PM at the Dock. It's great to see such strong interest in this important training, and we look forward to continuing to provide this valuable resource to our community.

Victoria Pride Parade 2024 - Sunday, July 07, 2024 at 11 AM

The Victoria Downtown Residents Association (VDRA) is excited to announce our participation in the Victoria Pride Parade on Sunday, July 7th. This continues our longstanding support for this important event.

A little history of the Victoria Pride Parade: The first Victoria Pride Parade took place on June 25th, and has grown from a small march of a few hundred supporters to one of the most anticipated events of the year, with over 120 entries and more than 40,000 spectators. The

parade is a large, colourful celebration that honours the diverse 2SLGBTQIA+ communities in Victoria.

Our involvement in the Victoria Pride Parade reflects our dedication to inclusivity, diversity, and community engagement. Last year, we marched at the Victoria Pride Parade. This year, we are thrilled to show our support by marching alongside other community members in the parade.

Our participation in the Victoria Pride Parade aligns with our mission to nurture a vibrant, inclusive downtown community. We believe in celebrating and supporting all residents, and we are proud to stand with the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. Marching in the parade is about more than just showing support; it's about advocating for equality, diversity, and love.

We look forward to celebrating Pride with you at the Victoria Pride Parade on Sunday, July 7th

Urban Ecology and Agriculture Committee

Introduction

The Urban Ecology and Agriculture Committee has some exciting updates and events happening in our community. From the progress of the mural at the Yates Street Community Garden to the upcoming Blossom Your Pride event, there's a lot to look forward to.

Updates

Yates Street Community Garden

Waitlist Count (As of June 17, 2024): 234

Mural: _____ Update

The mural is currently in progress and is expected to be finished by June 28th. Signage featuring the final design will be displayed at the site, along with an explanation of the "doodle-grid" process. The Yates Street Community Garden (YSCG) and the Community Engagement Committee (CEC) are working on planning pop-up events to allow people to get a closer look at the process. These events will include the opportunity to make bike-powered smoothies, although the specific dates have not been determined yet. Finally, a celebration event is scheduled for July.

Second Community Garden - View Street Parkade

The committee is continuing to work with the VDRA board and the Community Engagement Coordinator on the possibility of establishing a community garden on the rooftop of the View Street Parkade or finding alternative solutions.

Blossom Your Pride - Saturday, July 6, 2024, from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

We are thrilled to announce the return of our highly anticipated annual Blossom Your Pride! Join us at the Yates Street Community Garden (1014 Yates St.) on Saturday, July 6th, from 10:30 AM to 12 PM for a joyous gathering that celebrates our community's rich diversity and inclusivity.

Blossom Your Pride is not just a celebration; it's an opportunity for our community to come together, show support, and stand in unity with the 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. During the event, you can express your creativity by crafting a stunning bouquet of flowers, generously provided by Flowerface Farm, to take home with you. Furthermore,

to invigorate our spirits, we will be providing complimentary coffee and local doughnuts for all attendees.

We believe that inclusivity is not just a concept, but a way of life that enriches our community and fosters a sense of belonging for everyone. Blossom Your Pride is an all-ages event, and all members of our community are invited to join us in spreading love, support, and positivity.

Communications and Membership Committee Report – June 2024

Update on Committee activities since the May 2024 report:

- **Newsletter / Other Communications to Members:**
 - The May newsletter was issued on May 22. Statistics from Mail Chimp indicate that it was opened by 38.1% of subscribers. The items receiving the highest number of clicks were the Chinatown Awakening event, the City of Victoria Development Tracker, and the Naloxone training event.
 - We also sent communication about a mural information session on May 8.
 - We intend to put together a newsletter by June 20 and welcome contributions from Board members.

- **Web site**
 - We continue to add posts to the News page and add events to the Events page of our website.
 - 334 site sessions for May (down 7% from the previous month). The most viewed posts were the letter to Mayor and Council re rezoning of 1885 Government Street, the letter to Mayor and Council re rezoning of 837 Broughton Street, and the Queer Open Stag events.

- **Social Media**
 - The number of posts over the past month, and the current number of followers are:
 - Facebook - 10 posts, 1056 followers
 - Instagram - 2 posts, 1042 followers
 - Twitter - 5 tweets, 1155 followers

- **Other**
 - 2 new members since the last report. As a note, we send welcome letters to all new members inviting them to become involved with DRA activities, and, where applicable, to become an ambassadors for posting notices of our events in the buildings where they live.
 - 9 new newsletter subscribers since the last report

Submitted by
Doug Boyd
Chair, Communications and Membership Committee

**Land Use Committee Report – For Board Meeting
18 June 2024**

City of Victoria Development Tracker: <https://tender.victoria.ca/WebApps/OurCity/Prospero/Search.aspx>

Current

1. 741 Fisgard – Jawl Residential and Tri-Eagle Development

Rezoning and OCP amendment to increase building height and density. The building height will be 22 storeys and a 7.6 FSR. There will be 154 residential units, 4 commercial units at grade, 107 parking stalls, 164 bicycle parking stalls. A CALUC meeting was held June 12th. Letter is to be submitted.

2. 837 Broughton St – Fort Properties

Rezoning for 42 unit (including one live/work unit) rental, 6-storey building. Note – no parking. CALUC was held April 4th. Rezoning has been submitted. Letter is submitted.

3. 851 Broughton St – Concert Properties

Rezoning for mixed use development for 150 rental units (including IHCAP units) and 220 strata units. 26 storey condo building and 11 storey rental building. CALUC held April 2nd. Rezoning has been submitted (not yet submitted)

4. 603 and 607 Pandora Avenue – Mairet Hotels

Rezoning/ OCP Amendment for 12 storey, 198 room hotel. CALUC booked for February 20th, 2024. CALUC held and now letter is being drafted. (to be confirmed if letter is submitted)

5. 1885 Government Street – Pooni Group/ Nicola Wealth Real Estate

CALUC meeting to consider an OCP amendment, Rezoning and Heritage Alteration Application to the City for site at 1885 Government St. Pre-CALUC booked for October 30th. CALUC held February 13th, letter submitted.

6. 1244 Whart St – Salient Group

Rezoning for the guild building to accommodate two additional storeys, with heritage designation. Building will be a limited service hotel. Status: CALC held December 11, letter drafted for distribution Feb 23. Letter sent.

7. 836 Yates – Chard Properties

Heritage Alteration w Variance for approval of fence and gates, variance for height of the fence. Council declined the previous HAP w/V on 09 Dec 21. As of Mar 2022, all fencing and gates have been removed from the property. (Note: this application, in combination with any application from neighbouring 848 Yates, will effectively remove all or part of the pre-existing mid-block walkway that was presented with expansion and improvements as part of the application for Chard's development at 848 Yates St and identified in DCAP as part of the pedestrian network.) Status: New Application Review by City 07 Mar 2022 for the HAP w/V of fence & gates, variance for height of fence. Plans posted on the Devt Tracker. Status: **updated application received Jan 12, going to committee on TBD date.**

8. 937 View St – Nelson Investments w/ de Hoog & Kierulf –

Development Permit with Variance to build an 19-storey (over the 10 storey permitted) 60.2 m (over the 30m permitted), 266 studio and 1 BR market rental units with 0 vehicle parking and 317 bikes spots on R48 land and located in Fort St Heritage Corridor (using pre-fabricated components?). Proposed FSR 7.97. The applicant is not proposing to rezone away from the R48 zone but is requesting a height variance. Updated Status: **approved Council meeting to be held February 22nd**

9. 780 Blanshard/ BC Power Building – Reliance Properties

Rezoning to construct/add an 18-storey tower (proposed uses 17F residential + 1F amenity) above the existing 4-storey heritage registered building (proposed hotel use) with a total FSR 4.6. The heritage designation is proposed to be concurrent with the Rezoning and the Heritage Alteration Permit approvals. No on-site parking proposed but offered that they may have access to 25 off-site spots. The hybrid CALUC with concurrent in-person and online attendance was held on 21 March 2022 with in-person at The Parkside Hotel. The CALUC letter was submitted 27 April 2022 reflecting the community's concerns regarding the poor quality of the in-person presentation (audio and visual deficiencies) with a request for a second properly planned and executed CALUC meeting. Status: **Revised Drawings Received by City started Feb 26, 2024**

LUC: Ongoing and Active

1. 19. 2621-2629 Douglas Street (**BURNSIDE**) - Merchant House Capital

Pre-application CALUC for rezoning and DP. Applicant is seeking to rezone parcel at 2621 Douglas - near the former Times Colonist Building. 12-storey purpose-built rental building. 160 units ranging from studio to two-bedroom. No on-site parking.

2. 530 Chatham – Reliance Properties w D'Ambrosio

Rezoning application to permit residential uses, retail, commercial, arts and cultural facilities, high-tech, office, assembly, studio, small-scale commercial agriculture, parks and open space, and to designate two heritage-registered buildings. An OCP amendment is required for the addition of residential uses and for height. Proposal includes buildings with 2-6F podiums and 3 towers of 10F, 13F and 17F with a density of 3.0:1. Heritage buildings will be preserved and adapted for reuse. Public Amenity Contributions include open spaces and land for a proposed new art gallery. Online & in-person CALUC

meeting with Burnside Gorge and Downtown residents took place on 21 Sept 2021 with comments open until 03 Oct 2021. Approved at Heritage Advisory Panel on 10 May 2022. Revised drawings were received 1 February which precipitated a second CALUC Status: **CALUC waived by DRA and Burnside Gorge due to limited changes**

3. 579-585 Johnson St – Hartwig Industries w Studio 531 architects

Heritage Alteration Permit with Variance & Devt Permit applications to construct a new mixed-use building while retaining the heritage building at 579 Johnson in 2 phases (new buildings: P1, Cameron building: P2). “The project proposes to amalgamate 2 sites.” The existing 1F building on Johnson will be demolished. The proposal includes three buildings (new 4F on Johnson, existing 2F heritage on Johnson and new 5F behind others)

with one storey below grade. 25 residential units with a mix of 1 BD and 1 BD+den. FSR of 2.72:1. No vehicle parking is required or proposed and 49 bike parking proposed (48 required). Declined by both HAPL and ADP at their final meetings in 2021. Revised plans were posted on Development tracker April 27, 2022. Status: HAPL meeting was held July 14 to confirm Municipal Heritage designation on 579 Johnson St.

4. Delegating Minor Variance

Council is requesting CALUC feedback on allowing minor development variance permits to be delegated to staff.

5. 533 Chatham St – LeFevre Developments

Development Permit with variance application for a mixed use building and through block walkway and subdivision of property with existing heritage building. The proposal requires variances for height of building and on-site parking. Variance is for height (5.7m) and parking reduction of 13 stalls (from 92 to 79). Status: **Heritage Advisory Panel meeting held April 11th, 2023**

6. 539-545 ½ Fisgard & 16-18 Fan Tan Alley - Temporary Use Permit – Salient Group

Temporary Use Permit for short term accommodation. **Approved at December meeting**

7. 825/827 Fort Street – Development Permit Variance – Salient Group

Previously Fairfield – now within downtown, currently under construction. Requesting an additional storey. Application closed to responses – skipped public input.

8. 1011 Fort Street - Wild Coast Construction

CALUC meeting to consider a rezoning application to amend Zoning Regulation Bylaw #80-159 Part 6.55, 1(1)(k) & 2(2) – which currently prohibits dwelling units on the first storey and also requires that retail uses occupy not less than 75% of both street frontages – in order to allow the conversion of two small commercial suites facing Meares Street into residential use. Commercial units on Fort St. will be maintained. **Went to council.**

9. 1215 Langley St – Heritage Alteration Permit – Francophone Society

HAV application received for 1215 Langley St for Francophone society redevelopment of bastion square building; adding a balcony to the exterior. **No response sent as no committee input received.**

10. 1050 Yates – Chard Properties

Development Permit with Variance application for a mixed use development which includes purpose-built rental housing and ground oriented retail and shared amenity spaces. The proponent is asking for a variance of 24.22m or eight storeys, reduction of setbacks throughout and a reduction of 173 parking stalls. Status: **approved at council Jan 11**

11. 586 Johnson Street – Liquor License – Forged

Application received for permit application at 586 Johnson St for liquor license. **Letter sent to the City Jan 8.**

12. 1045 Yates St, Harris Chrysler (Phase 1) – Starlight

Development Permit with Variance concurrent with a Rezoning Application related to area of 4.9 acres over two sites. Proposal includes: 5 & 4-storey podium with 23 & 22 storey towers with a 6.18:1 FSR. Rental for 518 residential units, including mix of studio, 1, 2, 3 BRM, & TH with 7 Ground-oriented and 10 podium units with 348 onsite parking stalls & 674-bike parking. Proposal includes 484m² for Daycare. **Special Council meeting on February 16th: 3rd reading of zoning and OCP amendments. Council indicated support for the application (6-1). Motion to adopt zoning amendments, bylaw amendments, and housing agreements was postponed. Motion to approve development permit with variance was postponed.**

13. 1205 Quadra/911 Yates – Starlight

Rezoning and OCP Amendment and Devt Permit for two sites on the south side of Yates between Quadra & Cook: 1.35 hectare full 900-block Yates and the 0.63 hectare eastern half of the 1000-block Yates, 1045 Yates. Revised proposal includes: 5 & 4-storey podium with 34, 31 and 30 storey towers with an overall FSR of 6.06, 1584 new rental apartments, including 27 ground- oriented units and 30 podium-level units with 1291 parking spaces, and 2125 bike parking. Proposal now includes reference to a 2109 m² “public park” “play areas” & “dog park on View St” for the 900 Yates block. A 484 m² Daycare is also noted as included. Status: Revised drawings were received on August 8th.

14. 919 Douglas – Strathcona hotel – Liquor license

Liquor license application received to change to a complete liquor primary license for Strathcona hotel. Status: **letter sent to council on August 23**

15. 727 Yates – Saint Franks

Liquor license application to change location from broad st to yates st location received for Saint Franks received. Status: **Letter sent to council July 20**

16. 1205 Blanshard/Capital Six – Jawl Properties with D’Ambrosio –Rezoning & Devt Permit applications for 15,792 sqm total/commercial floor area, with an FSR of 5.89:1, 44.35 m/10 storeys, 144 onsite parking stalls, 117 bike spots. Online alternate CALUC meeting took place on 13 July 2021. Revised plans posted 13 Jan 2022. CALUC letter submitted 01 Feb 2022. Status: Bylaw Adopted

17. 603 Pandora Avenue –Hampton Inn Development – Held an Open House September 28th indicating a fall/winter development application. Application will include height and density variances.
18. 1030 Fort – Jawl Properties w Cascadia Architecture – Rezoning and Devt Permit with Variance for a 6-storey (22.28m) market rental project with CRUs at grade and 30 residential units (20 x 1BD+den and 10 x studio) with FSR of 4:1. No onsite parking is proposed (24 req) with 56 bike parking spots (44 req). An online community meeting was held on 31 Aug 2021. Approved at ADP on 23 Feb 2022. Status: Revised application received on July 5th, a letter response was sent to the city on July 20th. The project received 1st and 2nd reading on August 4th with a referral to public hearing once the following conditions are met: arborist report, housing agreement, transportation demand measures secured legally, park provisions secured, public hearing fee paid and notification signs erected.
19. 579-585 Johnson St – Hartwig Industries w Studio 531 architects – Heritage Alteration Permit with Variance & Devt Permit applications to construct a new mixed-use building while retaining the heritage building at 579 Johnson in 2 phases (new buildings: P1, Cameron building: P2). “The project proposes to amalgamate 2 sites.” The existing 1F building on Johnson will be demolished. The proposal includes three buildings (new 4F on Johnson, existing 2F heritage on Johnson and new 5F behind others) with one storey below grade. 25 residential units with a mix of 1 BD and 1 BD+den. FSR of 2.72:1. No vehicle parking is required or proposed and 49 bike parking proposed (48 required). Declined by both HAPL and ADP at their final meetings in 2021. Revised plans were posted on Development tracker April 27, 2022. Status: HAPL meeting was held July 14th to confirm Municipal Heritage designation on 579 Johnson St.
20. 780 Blanshard/ BC Power Building – Reliance Properties – Rezoning to construct/add an 18-storey tower (proposed uses 17F residential + 1F amenity) above the existing 4- storey heritage registered building (proposed hotel use) with a total FSR 4.6. The heritage designation is proposed to be concurrent with the Rezoning and the Heritage Alteration Permit approvals. No on-site parking proposed but offered that they may have access to 25 off-site spots. The hybrid CALUC with concurrent in-person and online attendance was held on 21 March 2022 with in-person at The Parkside Hotel. The CALUC letter was submitted 27 April 2022 reflecting the community’s concerns regarding the poor quality of the in-person presentation (audio and visual deficiencies) with a request for a second properly planned and executed CALUC meeting. On 10 May 2022, Miko Betanzo, City Planner, emailed the DRA LUC and the applicant the following,
21. 710 Caledonia – Chard/ProvBC – Rezoning and Devt Permits to develop three buildings over a shared commercial podium that includes office, grocery store, childcare and public plaza. Burnside Gorge LUC invited DRA LUC members to attend the Zoom meeting on Mon 07 Feb 2022. Status: Revised plans submitted to City on June 15th
22. 700 Government St – HAVN Experiences Ltd/Nicholas Van Buren – Rezoning to permit personal service uses (sauna) in the Inner Harbour & Devt Permit to convert a barge into a floating sauna structure. Status: Revised plans sent to City June 3rd.

23. Fairfield Gonzales LUC (on DRA border): 846 Broughton – Parc Living – Rezoning and Debt Permit to increase density and allow for a 10-storey mixed-use building. Status: Staff Review of Revised Plans 02 Mar 2022.
24. 516 Discovery (Burnside Gorge border) – City-initiated rezoning as part of the Rock Bay Plan to rezone to the M2-I Zone. The M2-I Zone – Douglas-Blanshard Industrial District permits limited light industrial uses, high-tech, service-commercial & limited retail. The following uses are the only uses permitted: high-tech, call centre, professional services (including architects, engineers, & surveyors), retail sales of home furnishings, home supplies or sporting goods, and retail sales & offices as accessory uses incidental to, and less FSR than, principal use. Limits on FSR of each use per building or by portion of site. Status: Only activity is City doc posted on 14 Sept 2006. Item added to follow in relation to “Innovation District” related proposals at our northern border.
25. Municipal Alcohol Policy – Staff provided update on progress on the policy with request from council on direction on several items at daytime Council 09 Dec 2021. Much time spent reviewing context and suggestions to expand the scope of the policy. Work will continue with direction given from council on all items brought from staff. No new information on this file to date.
26. 1244 Wharf – Salient Group – Heritage Alteration Permit and Rezoning File for exterior alterations (changes to existing windows and addition of new windows, changes to entrance door locations, building material changes, and an addition of a new rear balcony). Concurrent Rezoning File: REZ00739 concluded with approval to add hotel use. Status: Review of Revised Plans 24 June 2021.
27. 450 Swift St. Craft Beer Market Victoria Harbour. Liquor License Application. Notice of Application to combine two existing Liquor Primary Licences into one Liquor Primary Licence and Change Hours of the resulting Liquor Primary Licence.
28. Combine the two existing liquor primary licences that currently total 315 persons to one licence. Two liquor primary patios are proposed of 80 persons and 75 persons from the existing 315 persons to be licenced on the patio under the liquor primary licence. Align the liquor primary hours with the existing approved food primary hours: 9.00am – 1.00am, Monday – Saturday and 9.00am – midnight Sunday.
New Liquor Primary would run from 9AM – 1:00AM every day, aside from Sunday which would be 9AM-MIDNIGHT. Current Liquor Primary runs from 11:00AM – MIDNIGHT Monday-Sunday.
Letter Sent December 29th.
29. 27-560 Johnson Street. Artemis Whiskey Bar. Extending Liquor License Hours. The application is to change hours of liquor service for an existing liquor primary license and proposes to increase hours on Friday and Saturday only by one hour each day from 12am to 1am. The occupant load is 110 people and is not proposed to change. All licenced areas are interior as the establishment does not have exterior seating.
30. 910 Government Street. Axe and Grind. Liquor License Application. The application is for a new liquor primary licence having hours of operation from 9am to 2am daily with an 80-person occupant load. The application does not include any outside seating. Letter Sent December 14th.
31. 854-880 Pandora Avenue (**NORTH PARK**) - Townline Development

A twelve-story building with a varied unit mix of apartments and townhomes, including: 36 studio units (28%), 24 one-bedroom units (19%), 15 one-bedroom + den units (12%) , 51 two-bedroom units (40%) , Two three-bedroom units (2%), Large podium-level indoor/outdoor space with varied programming tailored to the needs of the building and its residents, Rooftop lounge and outdoor social space. The project constraints are approximately 7,100 ft² of ground-floor commercial space. Density of 4.5 FSR. **This is a development occurring in North Park, but is right on the border of the Downtown Neighbourhood. The project is not yet on the Development Tracker. The NPNA has invited the DRA to attend a CALUC meeting dated February 28th, at 6:30PM, in the BOSA Building Community Room at 1008 Pandora/1025 Mason Street.**

Archived or Inactive or Cancelled

1. 1.Zoning existing City parks as parks. Why has the City not committed to this? What can our committee do to advocate for protection of these community amenities? Discussed at 06 July 2020 DRA LUC meeting.
2. Develop a draft doc outlining guidelines for Heritage Corridors as referred to in the OCP, and as relevant to Fort St, etc. Discussed at 12 Aug 2020 pre-CALUC meeting. Quinn is reviewing supporting docs.
3. Rapid Deployment of Affordable Housing – City-led initiative to consider an application to amend the Land Use Procedures Bylaw to delegate development approvals for non-market affordable housing to the Director of Sustainable Development and Community Planning in all Development Permit Areas. Additionally, Council is considering an application to amend the Zoning Regulation Bylaw and the Zoning Bylaw 2018 to establish a maximum floor space ratio for qualifying affordable housing developments. Approved at Public Hearing on 14 Apr2022.
4. Neighbourhood Boundaries – Non-statutory public hearing at Council 27 Jan 2022. City proposal to change boundaries between Downtown and Fairfield to include DCAP plus other lands outside DCAP. DRA board and LUC sent letters not supporting change as proposed. LUC posited suggestion that only DCAP area should be considered for inclusion in Downtown but nothing else. Council amended the motion as advised by LUC and approved. Will come to Statutory Public Hearing as some changes require OCP amendments. Status: Report to Council on 17 Feb 2022.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – JUNE 2023

1. Recent activities:

Engaging with multi-residential buildings:

A meeting was held at theDock on June 4th to discuss a unified approach for engaging buildings in the neighbourhood and presenting the DRA's offerings (including the Coolkit program and the potential Connect & Prepare program) to building managers and strata councils. Sandra, James, Michael, Dawn, Furkan and Sebastian attended.

Sebastian has volunteered to start drafting a methodology for getting into buildings based on his knowledge and experience as a strata manager. Once the methodology is finalized, we will work together on the content and layout of what we want to send to buildings and Dawn and James will create a presentation for buildings that are interested in finding out more.

Dawn offered to join Furkan as co-chair of the committee and it was agreed that the work of the Coolkit program would migrate from the Urban Livability Committee to the CEC.

2. Upcoming activities:

Music in the Park: The first event in our series of free summer concerts is coming up on Tuesday, June 25th in Cridge Park and will feature music performances by Opal Dar and Q and storytelling by Kai Fig Taddei. The remaining concerts in the series will take place on July 17th and August 8th.

Submitted by: James Davis, Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator

VCAN meeting report – June 2024

May's meeting focused on the Community Mapping project with a presentation by Anne-Marie Daniels who works with RUSH (Resilient Urban Systems and Habitat). RUSH is involved in a variety of mapping projects (whatstherush.ca) including food security, heat domes, flood protection, canopy cover which can be seen on their website.

A representative group of VCAN members met up for an in-person walk through the Garry Oak meadow behind Government House last week, led by Dave Clark who is a retired forester and Environmental Chair of the Rockland Neighbourhood Association. Neighbourhood representatives were asked to identify Garry Oaks on private land as part of a mapping project for VCAN. The city has mapping data for Garry Oaks on public land but not for private land. The goal is to provide a more accurate count of the remaining Garry Oaks in Victoria. Given the high degree of densification in the Downtown, the task for the DRA is to identify any remaining Garry Oaks in our neighbourhood. If you know the location of any, please email the location to Sandra. So far Garry Oaks have been spotted on the water's edge near Red Fish Blue Fish.

A letter has been sent to Mayor and Council inviting them to participate in VCAN meetings.

From: Dawn Moorhead dlouisem@telus.net
Subject: June "Victoria" Coolkit report
Date: June 16, 2024 at 20:41
To: Dianne Flood secretary@victoriadra.ca

DM

1. The group has created a climate catastrophe Escape Room which is being tested with different participants. We request the VDRA board help by participating next time we meet in person. The experience only takes 15-20 minutes. Possible future sites for the pop-up escape room include: Market Square, other coolkit cohorts, Moss Street Market, neighbourhood associations, clubs, faith groups and schools.
2. The Sharen'Serve project hit a couple of bumps in the road. The necessary equipment, namely a sturdy hand cart to transport items, was ordered but they ran out of merch and the order was canceled. The request to the Yates Street Community Garden to host the project (by situating a storage cupboard in the garden) was denied. Dawn will "host" the project at her place for a very limited amount of time. If a suitable home cannot be obtained, we can return/donate the items to WIN.
3. Air conditioning survey - a photo was taken to include with a blurb in the VDRA newsletter, so some people may recognize what we're doing outside their buildings with our clipboards and questions. Kris & Dawn are working on mapping so data correlates with existing buildings.
4. "Electrify Victoria!" - Dawn has joined her strata council in an effort to further electrification and efficiency measures in her building.