

January 2021 Update **North Park**

In Your Neighbourhood

2021 Budget Input Wanted

The City of Victoria is seeking the community's feedback on its 2021 Draft Budget. You're invited to read the plan or Budget Summary and complete an online survey. Plan to participate in the City's Virtual Budget Town Hall, an interactive event that will be webcast live on **Wednesday**, **January 13**, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. Starting Monday, January 4, the community will be able to submit questions and comments on Twitter (#victownhall), through an online form or by telephone. You can then tune in to the live webcast for the answers.

Community Virtuals

The City is continuing with the Community Virtuals presentation series in 2021. The first will be "Engaging Your Neighbours" on Wednesday, January 20 from noon to 1:30pm. If you have a great idea to improve your neighbourhood, but are not sure how to get feedback and support from your neighbours, join this panel to get tips from City engagement staff and community groups who have recently engaged their neighbours in the process of applying for City funding.

New Councillor Elected

Stephen Andrew was elected as a new Victoria Councillor in December with 6,937 votes. The nearest other candidates were Stephanie Hardman with 3,783 and Roshan Vickery with 603 votes.

Council will consider the appointments of Councillors to neighbourhoods for the balance of their terms at their January 14 Committee meeting.



Neighbourhood Association Coordinators

On December 3, Council approved a motion relating to providing funding for neighbourhoods without community centres that will inform budget deliberations on January 15, 2021. Specifically:

- 1. That Council direct staff to report back on a potential funding source for \$20,000 for a part-time coordinator for the Downtown Residents Association, North Jubilee, South Jubilee, Rockland and North Park Neighbourhoods as a one-year pilot with a final report on the utility of the coordinator position to be provided at the end of the pilot.
- 2. Forward this motion to the Victoria Community Association Network (VCAN) for their feedback









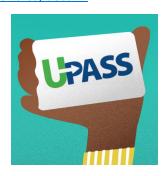
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Call To Be Calm

Artist in Residence, Kathryn Calder is inviting those in need of calm and joy in their day to call the new 1-877-2BE-CALM toll-free hotline. Individuals can experience the toll-free phone line by dialling up and choosing from a rotating selection of soothing auditory experiences, including music from Canadian artists, nature, poetry, children's laughter, meditations and Indigenous stories and songs. Learn more about the 1-877-2BE-CALM project and how to submit a recording of your child's laughter at victoria.ca/becalm.

Do U Need A Bus Pass?

The annual Youth U-Pass is now available for 2021. Youth between the ages of 6-18 years of age living in the municipality of Victoria are invited to apply for a free BC Transit Youth U-PASS valid from February 1 to December 31, 2021. The U-PASS allows youth to travel for free to school, work, shopping and recreation on the Victoria Regional Transit System. Learn more at: victoria.ca/transit



Community Grants Available

The City is accepting applications for <u>Strategic Plan Grants</u> until January 31. In 2021, \$500,000 in funding is available for projects that are directed towards projects supporting the achievement of the City's Strategic Plan. There are online workshops on January 13 and 20 at 9am to learn more about the grant program. To sign up to participate, email grants@victoria.ca.

The Great Neighbourhood Grant program closed at the end of 2020 with over 50 grants awarded with a total of over \$184,000 in funding. The City will be accepting applications again in April after a review and report to Council.

Villages and Corridors

The online public conversation is ready to launch and will run through January. The conversation will provide opportunities for you to learn about and provide feedback on the initial concepts, options and opportunities and share initial ideas.

Speed Reduction

Council has resolved to pursue a reduction in the City's default speed limit. After reviewing a <u>staff report</u> on January 7, Council directed staff to finalize any

North Park Big Ideas



- Quadra Corridor -People Place
- New Homes and Green Leafy Streets
- Maker Spaces for Artisans and Employment
- Adding and Enlivening Public Space
- 5) People Focused Village Evolution

Take the Housing and Amenity Survey to see where new housing opportunities are being considered.

CITY OF VICTORIA | North Park

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outstanding stakeholder engagement and, pending approval of resources through the 2021 Financial Planning process, prepare an application to participate in the Motor Vehicle Act Pilot Program to reduce default speed limits on local roads without a continuous centre line in the City of Victoria from 50 km/hr to 30 km/hr as per the 2019 – 2022 Strategic Plan.

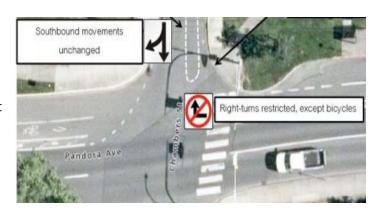
Neighbourhood Boundaries

Council has resolved to allocate a portion of a Committee of the Whole meeting in February 2021 to have a discussion about reconciling issues in neighbourhood boundaries. Any input into their discussion should be considered and submitted prior to then. The specific date has not yet been confirmed.

Chambers Street Pilot Project

For some time, residents have been expressing concerns about the traffic conditions on Chambers Street (Fernwood). Recent studies have shown that, although motor vehicle speeds have generally not be excessive, the volume of traffic on the street is high.

It is believed that a significant portion of this traffic is due to motorists short-cutting to North Park Village and northern destinations. In response, the City will be conducting a pilot project to eliminate



right (northbound) turns off Pandora Avenue and onto Chambers Street. The trial will commence at the end of January and all affected residents are being informed.

City Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets on January 7, 14, 21 and 28th at 9:00am with Council meetings following Committee meetings.

