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Council approves density provisions for affordable housing

The City of Campbell River has a new way to encourage more construction of affordable housing. A zoning bylaw amendment to permit density bonusing would allow developers, and not-for-profit organizations such as the Campbell River Head Injury Society, to incorporate additional residential density in development plans, in return for adding affordable housing units. Density bonusing is widely used in other jurisdictions to promote affordable housing in partnership with funding agencies. A public hearing on density bonusing was held July 24.

Cypress Street improvements

Council approved Cypress Street improvements to upgrade a significant portion of the street, parking area and corners of 11th Ave., based on a concept plan developed through the Refresh Downtown initiative. Improvements will include paving the gravel parking lot, landscaping, sidewalk improvements and lighting.

Work will take place this year, and total cost for this project will be \$115,000, funded with \$51,000 from the City's capital works reserve, \$40,000 from the parking lot improvements budget and \$24,000 from external developers.

City provides beautification grants

Council approved partnering agreements and grant funding for four local business groups.

- **Heart of the City Business Improvement Area Association** – up to \$5,950 for 2017 for sign installation at 11th Ave. and Shopper's Row to highlight nearby shops and services, electrical box wrapping along Shopper's Row, pressure washing and leaf blowing in downtown public areas.
- **Willow Point Business Improvement Area Society** – up to \$5,870 for 2017 for planter box installation and maintenance as well as supply and installation of Christmas lighting in Willow Point.
- **Campbellton Neighbourhood Association** – up to \$10,000 for 2017 for garden planter boxes and art banners on streetlight posts in Campbellton.
- **Pier Street Association** – up to \$10,000 for 2017 planter maintenance, tree pruning, general site maintenance, pressure washing, and the purchase and replacement of two benches in the Pier Street area.

The beautification grant program awards up to \$10,000 annually for four local business groups to beautify and/or enhance public areas. City contributions are matched financially or in-kind from the receiving organizations.

Agreement with BC Hydro for fast charger for electric vehicles at Community Centre

Council endorsed a 10-year agreement with BC Hydro for the installation of a charger at the Community Centre that will re-charge electric vehicles from empty to full in 30 minutes or less. Installing the new Level 3 DC fast charger will cost approximately \$100,000, funded 100 per cent funded through external grants from BC Hydro and project partners Natural Resources Canada, the Province of BC and automakers, and a \$12,800 contribution from the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program grant received by the City.

Campbell River is one of five communities on Vancouver Island to host a new fast charger. Currently, 31 municipalities in B.C. host approximately 1,000 public car-charging stations, and 30 are Level 3 DC fast chargers.

BC Hydro expects that there will be 300,000 electric vehicles on the road in the province by 2030.



Council Meeting Highlights August 14, 2017

Second quarter financial report

Second quarter financial reporting confirms the City's revenue and expenses are as expected for April 1 to June 30, 2017.

Of the 39 operating projects approved by Council for the year, 29 are in progress and nine completed.

Of the 98 capital projects approved, 69 are in progress and 22 completed. The City's annual capital plan supports renewed and enhanced infrastructure to accommodate community demand. Because many of the City's capital projects do not get underway until the summer construction season, total capital spending in the first quarter was \$6.8 million on an annual budget of \$25.8 million.

The full report is available on the City's website in the Financial Reports section.

109 Larwood rezoning approved

Council approved rezoning for 109 Larwood Rd. to permit a secondary residence and a secondary suite on the property. This amendment is consistent with the applicable Sustainable Official Community Plan policies and guidelines. A public hearing was held July 24.