

December 18, 2021

UPDATE: OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN AMENDMENTS FOR GREAT BLUE HERON NEST TREES AND STEEP SLOPES
Further opportunities for public feedback in the new year

In November, the City of Campbell River held two virtual meetings and an online survey to gather feedback about proposed amendments to two Development Permit Areas in the Official Community Plan.

The proposed amendments are:

1. Adding Great Blue Heron nest trees to the Bald Eagle nest tree Development Permit Area guidelines
2. Improving the Steep Slope Development Permit Area guidelines for human safety and adding additional environmental guidelines

Key messages heard during the virtual meetings and from the online survey include:

- Organize additional engagement opportunities to discuss the proposed amendments, with separate events for Great Blue Herons and Steep Slopes
- Focus on landslide risk and human safety guidelines within the Steep Slope Development Permit Area, and consider environmental guidelines in the future apart from this process
- Ensure residents affected by amendments to the Steep Slope Development Permit guidelines are aware of the changes

Another key takeaway from the public input was that there is strong support for greater tree protection, but there is also strong support for maintaining views with no additional regulations.

How we are responding to what we heard:

- Going forward, consultation about Great Blue Herons and Steep Slopes will be held separately. More information about the proposed amendments will be available at www.campbellriver.ca/ocp-herons-steep-slopes in the new year.
- Additional engagement opportunities will be held in March to seek input.
- For the Steep Slope Development Permit Area, the City will focus on the guidelines to address slope stability and human safety. The environmental guidelines will not be included at this time, but will be considered in the future as part of a separate process.
- In January, we will complete a direct mailout to landowners within the Steep Slope Development Permit Area to ensure they are aware of the proposed amendments and how to provide input into the process.
- The results of the virtual meetings and the online survey will be analyzed and shared with Council, and made available on the City website, at www.campbellriver.ca/ocp-herons-steep-slopes, in February.

"We would like to thank everyone who took the time to share their concerns, ask questions and suggest improvements to the process," says Terri Martin, the City's environmental specialist. "There is such a diversity of views. We want to ensure that people understand the proposed changes and that they have the opportunity to provide input. Additional consultation opportunities are being planned for the new year."

Watch the City's website at www.campbellriver.ca/ocp-herons-steep-slopes for future opportunities to provide input.

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