

Re-launch of Parksville's Official Community Plan

The City of Parksville's Official Community Plan process will be re-launched with a presentation to Council at their next scheduled meeting on February 6 at 6 pm in the Forum, Parksville Civic and Technology Centre. As with all Council, the public is welcome to attend this meeting.

Urban Systems Ltd has been retained to assist the community in completing this important planning document that will have an impact on future growth and development for years to come. The presentation will provide an update on the OCP process and what is planned for the coming months. Urban Systems Ltd is a multi-disciplinary firm with a staff of planners, engineers, technologists, landscape architects, urban designers and local government specialists. The company has assisted numerous communities with their community plans and other planning documents. The central work will take place out of their Victoria office.

The City of Parksville's goal is to complete the OCP review by the end of 2012. In meeting this timeline, many opportunities will be provided for the public to contribute to the review. This includes public events and open houses, committee meetings, website postings and updates in the City's monthly news page in the local paper.

The Citizens and Community Advisory committees continue to meet and provide valuable input on direction. To date, the committees have met 18 times, and a further five meetings are schedule between February and June.

Public consultation is necessary for a strong OCP document that represents the community. The first in a series of public events will be a display table during the Sunday free skate at Oceanside Place on March 4 from noon to 4 pm. The public is invited to speak with Urban Systems and members of the advisory committees; there will be an opportunity to review the process to date and provide feedback on where residents would like to see growth and development, transportation options and action on climate change.

The City of Parksville and Urban Systems look forward to community input on Parksville's plan for the future. <u>http://www.parksville.ca/ocp</u>

For more information:

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About Parksville — Located on Vancouver Island's sheltered east coast, 12,000 residents call Parksville their home. Parksville offers a quality lifestyle with many activities. We are committed to being the city of choice for ourselves and future generations in a clean, safe, friendly, economically viable and sustainable environment.