

Attachment 3 Recommended Policy Option

The recommended policy option is to develop a Board Community Amenity Contribution (CAC) Policy to create a clear and consistent framework for negotiating the acquisition of amenities throughout the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN).

As part of the work program to create a Board CAC Policy and in line with best practices, a multi-phased approach, including document review/research of existing local government CAC policy examples and community engagement would be undertaken to inform a draft policy. A high level initial review of existing practices has been undertaken as part of this report. To carry out the next steps of the work program, a consultant would be hired to undertake an in-depth review of other local government practices and existing literature on the topic to determine acceptable minimum CAC requirements for development. Following this review, the consultant would commence community engagement with residents in areas lacking OCP policies on desired amenities. Once these steps are complete, the CAC Policy would be drafted and the development community engaged prior to a final draft policy is presented to the Board.

If the Board decides to proceed with this project in 2022, a work program and financial plan can be developed to accommodate the proposed project. A preliminary estimate of consultant fees to undertake the best practice review and community engagement are estimated to cost approximately \$50,000. This initial estimate relied on consulting fees to host community engagement sessions within the RDN on a recent long range planning project. Consulting fees are estimated to be substantial as residents should be engaged in areas lacking direction on amenities, and the development community should be consulted to gain insight and create a transparent approach.