
TO: RDN Board **MEETING:** December 4, 2018

FROM: Jamai Schile **FILE:** 6789-30 MA
Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Regional Growth Strategy Amendment to Implement the Town of Qualicum Beach
Official Community Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Board receive the response from affected local governments regarding “Regional District of Nanaimo Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No.1615.03, 2018”.
2. That “Regional District of Nanaimo Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No.1615.03, 2018” be introduced and given first and second reading.
3. That “Regional District of Nanaimo Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No.1615.03, 2018” be read a third time.
4. That “Regional District of Nanaimo Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No.1615.03, 2018” be adopted.

SUMMARY

At their September 18, 2018 meeting, the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) Board directed that the amendment proceed through the minor amendment process and endorsed the Consultation Plan including 45 days written notice to affected local governments. This 45 day period ended on November 6, 2018 and responses from two of the seven affected local governments were received identifying no concerns with the proposed amendment. Given that no concerns were raised as a result of the referral, the recommendation is that the amending bylaw now proceed to first and second reading, and with an affirmative vote of all attending Board members for second reading, proceed directly to third reading. The bylaw can be adopted at the next Board meeting. If second reading is not unanimous, a public hearing must be held prior to third reading and adoption.

BACKGROUND

The “Town of Qualicum Beach Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 800.2018” was adopted on June 18, 2018 after a two year review process with extensive community engagement. For the Town to implement several policies and map changes resulting from the Official Community Plan (OCP) review, an amendment to the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) is required.

The Town is requesting that the applicable Growth Containment Boundary (GCB) be moved so that it is contiguous with the Town’s municipal boundary. This change to the GCB means that all land within the municipal boundary will be designated Urban Area in the RGS. This means that

while the GCB will be located at the Town boundary there will still be an Urban Containment Boundary (UCB) that surrounds the areas where urban type growth will develop. Further to this, the Town's OCP Policy 2.1.1.3 states: "The Town shall not provide sewer services to areas located outside of the designated UCB or municipality boundary, except where existing development threatens public health or the environment." This approach to growth management is consistent with the RGS policies on Urban Centres (RGS Section 4.7 – 4.9) and the general premise that the majority of new growth will take place within the municipalities.

The RGS amendments resulting from the Town of Qualicum Beach OCP Review are as follows:

- RGS Appendix 'A' Maps 1, 2 and 5 amended so that the RGS Growth Containment Boundary is the same as the municipal boundary.
- Map 3 and Map 4 amended so that the RGS Growth Containment Boundary is the same as the municipal boundary and all of the land within the municipal boundary is shown as Urban Area.
- Sheets 5 and Sheet 6 of Appendix 'B' amended so that the Growth Containment Boundary is the same as the municipal boundary.

Draft Bylaw No.1615.03 to amend the RGS is included as Attachment 1.

At the September 18, 2018 meeting¹, the RDN Board directed that the amendment process proceed through the minor amendment process and endorsed the related Consultation Plan. The updated Regional Context Statement was also accepted through the following motions:

- That the amendments required to "Regional District of Nanaimo Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No.1615, 2011" to implement the "Town of Qualicum Beach Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 800.2018" proceed through the minor amendment process.
- That the Regional Context Statement be accepted.
- That the Consultation Plan for "Regional Growth Strategy Amendment to Implement the Town of Qualicum Beach Official Community Plan" be endorsed.

Public Consultation

In accordance with [Section 1.5.2](#) of "Regional District of Nanaimo Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1615, 2011", letters of notification regarding the proposed amendment were sent to the affected local governments as identified in Table 1 (below) with the approved [Consultation Plan](#). Of those contacted, two responses were received from the District of Lantzville and the City of Parksville, which expressed no concerns with the proposed bylaw amendment. (See Attachments 2 for RGS Section 1.5.2 and Attachment 3 for Response to Notification).

Given the extensive public engagement over the two year OCP review project, consultation on the subsequent RGS amendment focuses on making information available to interested parties. One newspaper notice of the meeting at which the bylaw will be considered for first reading was

¹At the September 18, 2018 Board meeting the following staff report and recommendations were considered: [RDN staff report \(dated sept. 4, 2018\) and applicable attachments](#)

posted in the Nanaimo News Bulletin and the Parksville Qualicum Beach News on November 22, 2018.

Table 1 Affected Local Governments and First Nations to whom notice was sent

Affected Local Governments	First Nations
City of Nanaimo District of Lantzville City of Parksville Town of Qualicum Beach Comox Valley Regional District Alberni Clayoquot Regional District Cowichan Valley Regional District	Snuneymuxw First Nation Snaw-Naw-As First Nation Qualicum First Nation K'omoks First Nation

Pursuant to RGS Policy 1.5.2 *Process for Approving Minor Amendments*, the bylaw may be adopted without a public hearing after second reading in the event that the amending bylaw receives an affirmative vote of all Board members attending the meeting. Should the vote for second reading pass but not be unanimous, a public hearing must be held.

In the event that a public hearing is not required, Section 228 of the *Local Government Act* provides provision for a regional district bylaw, such as Bylaw No. 1615.03, that does not require provincial approval or other approval to be given three readings and adoption at the same meeting at which it passes third reading, if the motion receives at least 2/3 of the votes. This is also consistent with the Regional District of Nanaimo Procedure Bylaw No. 1754, 2017, Section 23, where a bylaw may be voted upon by way of a motion to give first, second, and third reading. Given this information and the extensive public consultation already undertaken, it is recommended to proceed with three readings through to adoption in one meeting.

ALTERNATIVES

1. To proceed with the amendment to the Regional Growth Strategy and consider three readings and adoption of the amending bylaw. (If a vote for second reading of the amending bylaw passes but is not unanimous, a public hearing must be held before third reading and adoption).
2. Provide staff with alternate direction.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Proceeding with the recommendations has no implications related to the Board 2018-2022 Financial Plan.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

The Board's Strategic Plan recognizes "the environment" and "economic health" with a *Focus On The Environment - We Will Have A Strong Focus On Protecting And Enhancing Our*

Environment In All Decisions. The identified amendments to the RGS will enable implementation of the Town of Qualicum Beach's OCP policies related to these areas.



Jamai Schile
jschile@rdn.bc.ca
November 13, 2018

Reviewed by:

- P. Thompson, Manager, Current Planning
- G. Garbutt General Manager, Strategic and Community Development
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments

1. Draft Bylaw No.1615.03
2. Section 1.5.2 Process for Approving Minor Amendments
3. Response to Notification