

STAFF REPORT

TO: Regional District of Nanaimo Board MEETING: January 22, 2019

FROM: Jamai Schile FILE: 6789 - 30 MA

Senior Planner

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

Official Community Plan – Third Reading

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Board receive the Summary of the Public Hearing held on January 8, 2019 for "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 read a third time.
- 3. That "Regional District of Nanaimo Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1615.03, 2018" be adopted.

SUMMARY

The Town of Qualicum Beach is requesting that the Regional Growth Startegy (RGS) be amended to relocate the RGS Growth Containment Boundary (GCB) to be contiguous with the Town's municipal boundary. The amendment bylaw was introduced and given first and second reading on December 4, 2018, and proceeded to Public Hearing on January 8, 2019. It is recommended that "Regional District of Nanaimo Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1615.03, 2018" (Bylaw 1615.03) be considered for third reading and adoption.

BACKGROUND

On June 18, 2018, the Town of Qualicum Beach adopted the "Town of Qualicum Beach Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 800, 2018". For the Town to fully implement their Official Community Plan (OCP), an amendment to the RGS is required. Thus, the Town is requesting that the GCB be relocated at the Town's municipal boundary. If approved, this change means that the land within the Town's boundary will be designated Urban Area in the RGS and the applicable RGS maps will be updated to show the change to the GCB. Within the town's boundary there will remain a municipal Urban Containment Boundary (UCB) that surrounds the areas where urban type growth will be supported. The community's OCP defines the limits of urbanization within the designated area through the UCB policies established in Section 2.1.1 and the Land Use Designation Map, Schedule 2.1.

Bylaw 1615.03 was introduced and given first and second reading on December 4, 2018 (see Attachment 1). This was followed by a Public Hearing held on January 8, 2019, which was advertised in the regional newspapers on January 1 and 3. During the Public Hearing period

the RDN received twenty-six written submissions that where added to the public record and provided to Board members at the Public Hearing. The Hearing was well attended by interested residents, and of those in attendance thirty-eight people provided verbal comment at the meeting. The report that summarizes the proceedings and comments made at the public hearing is attached for the Board's consideration (see Attachment 2).

Following the close of the Public Hearing no further submissions or comments from the public or interested persons can be accepted by members of the Board, as established by legal precedent. Having received the meeting notes of the Public Hearing eligible Board members may vote on the amendment bylaw.

ALTERNATIVES

- 1. To receive the Summary of the Public Hearing and give third reading and adopt "Regional District of Nanaimo Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1615.03, 2018"
- 2. To receive the Summary of the Public Hearing and to not give third reading to "Regional District of Nanaimo Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1615.03, 2018"

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 "economic health" and "the environment" with a "Focus On The Environment - We Will Have A Strong Focus On Protecting And Enhancing Our Environment In All Decisions".

Jamai Schile, Senior Planner

ischile@rdn.bc.ca January 14, 2019

Reviewed by:

- P. Thompson, Acting General Manager, Strategic and Community Development
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments

- 1. Proposed Amendment Bylaw No. 1615.03, 2018
- 2. Summary of the Public Hearing