

# REIMAGINE NANAIMO

PHASE 3 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY  
SPRING 2022



### Land Acknowledgment

We would like to begin by acknowledging that the City of Nanaimo is on the Traditional Territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the Traditional Territory of Snuneymuxw First Nation.

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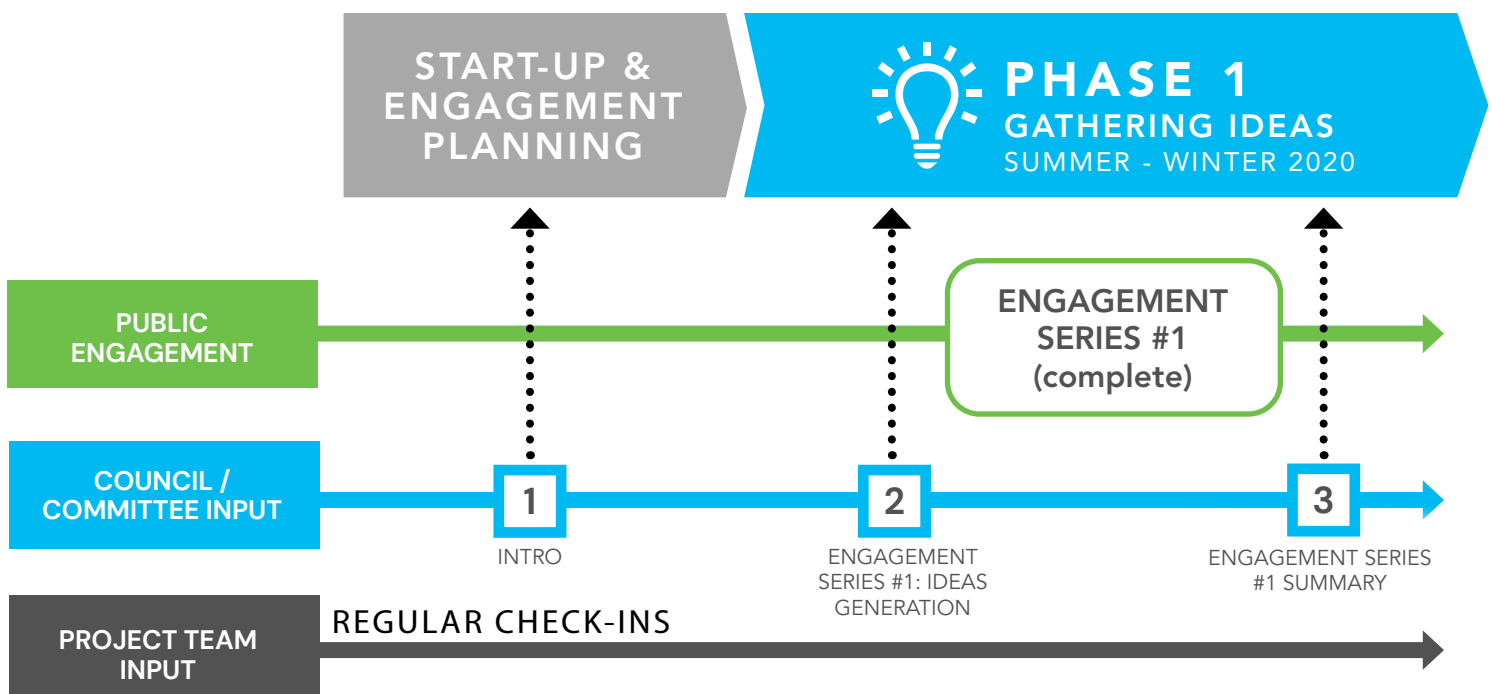
# ENGAGEMENT PROCESS OVERVIEW

## ENGAGEMENT PROCESS








The diagram below illustrates the process for **REIMAGINE NANAIMO**. Public input has been requested during each phase to inform the development of *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged*.

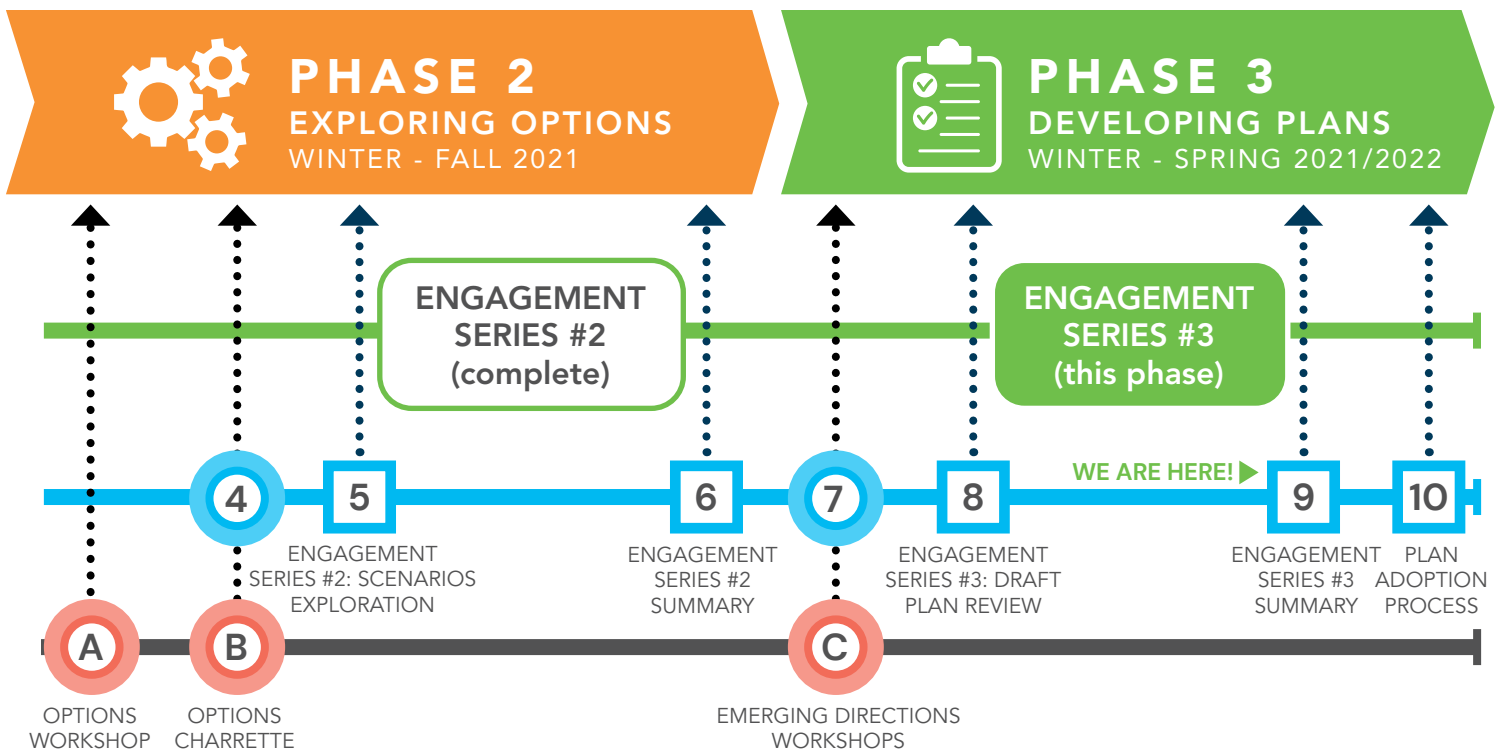
The chart to the right illustrates the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Public Participation Spectrum. **REIMAGINE NANAIMO** has included all four engagement levels shown in green. Committees of Council have, and will continue to, provide instrumental input to **REIMAGINE NANAIMO** and advice to Council. Nanaimo's elected Council will be delegated to make final decisions on the plan developed through **REIMAGINE NANAIMO**.





#### 4 ENGAGEMENT LEVELS TO BE USED IN REIMAGINE NANAIMO

					
	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities, and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives, and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE	"The City of Nanaimo will keep you informed."	"The City of Nanaimo will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision."	"The City of Nanaimo will work with participants to ensure that their concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decisions."	"The City of Nanaimo will look to participants for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate their advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible."	"The City of Nanaimo will implement what the public decides."
EXAMPLES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» City's website</li> <li>» Staff reports and presentations</li> <li>» Print and digital ads</li> <li>» Background information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Stakeholder calls and emails</li> <li>» Surveys</li> <li>» Pop-up conversations</li> <li>» Online digital platform</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Interactive displays</li> <li>» Focus groups</li> <li>» Community workshops</li> <li>» Stakeholder meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Committees</li> <li>» Task Forces</li> <li>» Workshops</li> <li>» Charrettes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Alternate Approval Process</li> <li>» Referendum</li> <li>» Election</li> </ul>

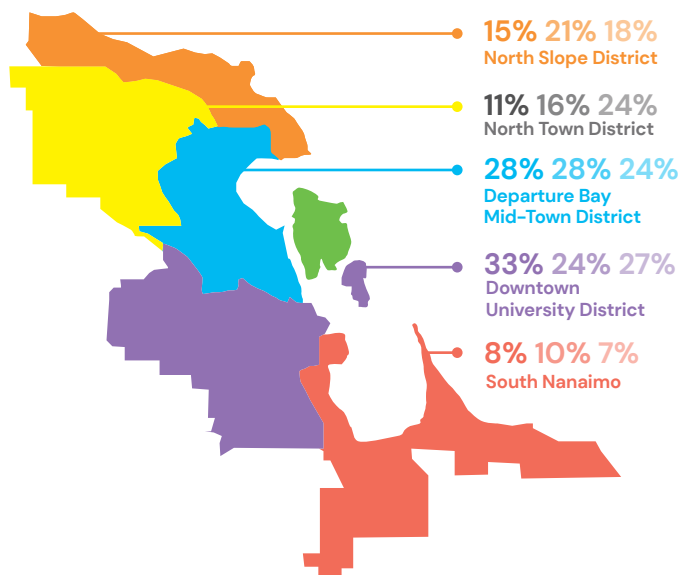


# ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

## WHO PARTICIPATED?

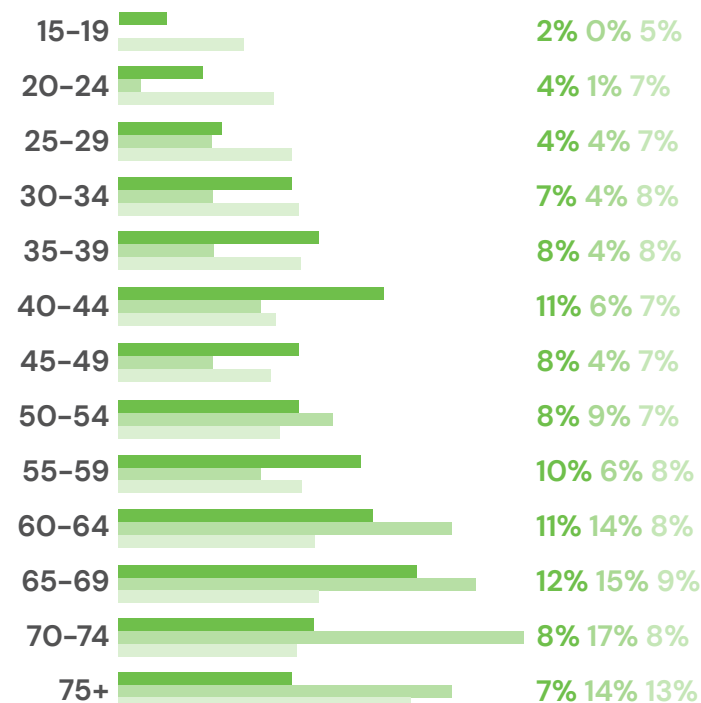
The charts below provide a quick overview of geographical and age group participation in the Phase 3 surveys. For the percentages on both graphics, the first number indicates Community Survey participants, the second shows Statistical Survey participants, the third is Nanaimo population data (2021 or 2016 Census). The process saw representation across all geographical areas of the city and from all age ranges.

### WHERE DO PARTICIPANTS LIVE?

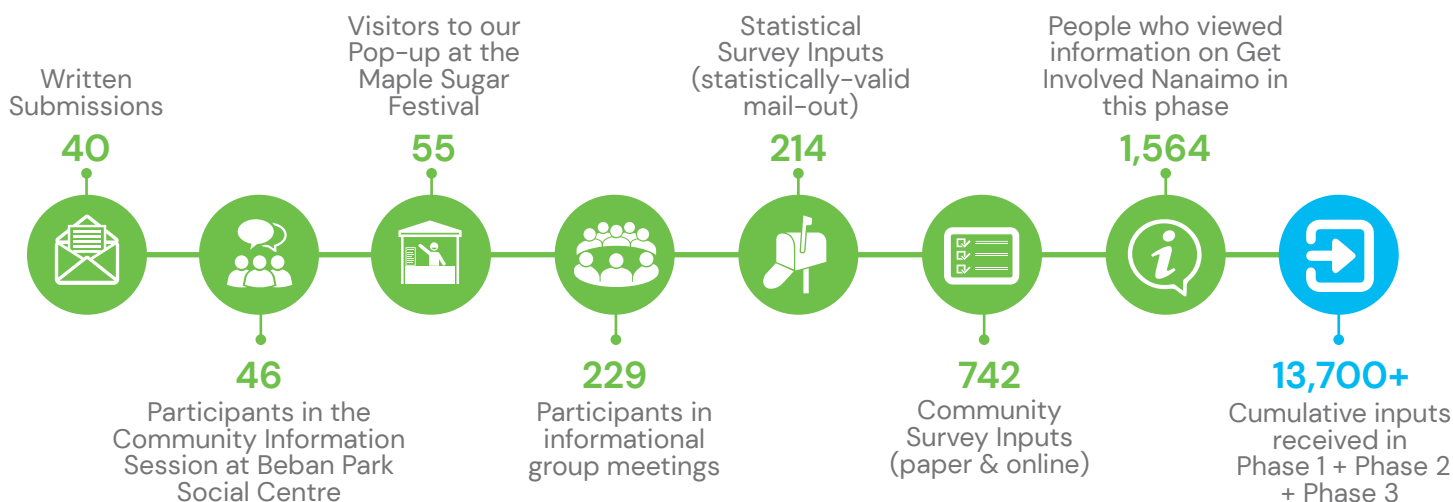


Approximately 7% of participants in the Community Survey and 1% of participants in the Statistical Survey reported being from other nearby communities (Snuneymuxw First Nation, Snaw-Naw-As (Nanoose First Nation), Lantzville, or RDN Electoral Areas), but working, shopping, or participating in activities in Nanaimo.

### HOW OLD ARE PARTICIPANTS?



## HOW PARTICIPANTS SHARED THEIR IDEAS



# PHASE 3 COMMUNITY SURVEY



Read the following four pages of highlights for a quick overview of this section.  
View Section 3.1 for details.

The **Phase 3 Community Survey** was an opportunity to gather feedback on key directions in the draft *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged*. Input received through the survey will be used alongside input from individuals, stakeholders, agencies, and Committees of Council to identify potential refinements to the City Plan document.

## SURVEY DISTRIBUTION

The survey was distributed in two formats:

- ▶ A **Statistical Survey** gathered input through a mail-out survey to a representative sample of residents.
- ▶ A voluntary **Community Survey** gathered input via an online or paper survey open to all interested people.

Both formats asked the same questions allowing comparative analysis. Results from both formats are summarized in the following pages.

## SURVEY QUESTIONS

Participants had an opportunity to indicate their level of support for a total of 84 general policy directions and share comments or suggestions to improve draft directions. Questions were organized around **12 Priorities for Progress** (below), reflecting values the Nanaimo community identified through the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process. Each section included a series of related key directions from the draft City Plan and asked for participants' level of support for each draft direction as well as their comments and suggestions for improvements. The following pages summarize each section.



**City Living**



**Livable Neighbourhoods**



**A Thriving & Creative Downtown**



**Mobility Choice**



**Affordable City**



**Supportive City**



**Inclusive & Equitable**



**Access to Nature & Outdoor Recreation**



**A Green Approach**



**A Waterfront Identity**



**Central Hub Identity**



**Great Businesses & Jobs**





## SURVEY FINDING HIGHLIGHTS

This overview provides an overview of all the key directions that had general support, as well as those where more mixed feedback was identified. Visit the **page number** listed beside each key direction to learn more about that direction and the comments participants shared about it.



### CITY LIVING

#### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+75% SUPPORT**

- |  | PAGE # |
|--|--------|
| ► Focus Future Growth in Existing Centres                      | 29     |
| ► Make Downtown our Primary Urban Centre                       | 30     |
| ► Create Secondary Urban Centres around Existing Activity Hubs | 31     |
| ► Support Smaller Neighbourhood Centres with Local Services    | 32     |
| ► Avoid Large Areas of Surface Parking & Drive-Thrus           | 35     |
| ► Plan Mobility Routes between Centres as Corridors            | 36     |
| ► Define Mixed-use & Residential Corridors in the City         | 37     |

#### DIRECTION WITH MORE MIXED FEEDBACK

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| ► Support Large-Format Retail that is Designed to be Pedestrian-Friendly and Mixed-use | 33 |
|--|----|



**51%** Community Survey / **56%** Statistical Survey  
SUPPORT



**49%** Community Survey / **44%** Statistical Survey  
DON'T SUPPORT OR SUGGEST CHANGES

#### Written Comment Theme Summary\*

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| <b>45%</b> | Support some large-format retail, but with considerations |
| <b>43%</b> | Generally do not support large-format retail              |
| <b>6%</b>  | Desire for more large-format retail                       |
| <b>6%</b>  | Other comments  |



### LIVABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

#### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+78% SUPPORT**

- |   | PAGE # |
|---|--------|
| ► Define Neighbourhoods & Suburban Neighbourhoods in the City   | 38     |
| ► Provide Gentle Transitions in Building Forms  | 40     |
| ► Fill Gaps in Neighbourhood-Scale Services   | 43     |
| ► Create a Land Use Designation for the Old City Quarter  | 44     |
| ► Support Parks, Trails, and Walkable Streets in all Neighbourhoods   | 45     |
| ► Secure Spaces for Recreation, Culture, & Wellness Programs throughout the Community                             | 46     |
| ► Develop Area Plans in Areas Where Growth is Expected and Engage Regularly with all Neighbourhoods on Priorities | 47     |

#### DIRECTION WITH MORE MIXED FEEDBACK

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| ► Support Low to Modest Infill in Neighbourhoods | 41 |
|--|----|



**72%** Community Survey / **77%** Statistical Survey  
SUPPORT



**28%** Community Survey / **23%** Statistical Survey  
DON'T SUPPORT OR SUGGEST CHANGES

#### Written Comment Theme Summary\*

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| <b>43%</b> | General support for thoughtful, modest infill |
| <b>24%</b> | Suggestions or ideas to consider for infill   |
| <b>5%</b>  | Desire for more infill and density            |
| <b>6%</b>  | Concerns about more infill and density        |
| <b>6%</b>  | Other comments                                |



## SURVEY FINDING HIGHLIGHTS



### THRIVING & CREATIVE DOWNTOWN

#### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+79% SUPPORT**

- |  | PAGE # |
|--|--------|
| ► Position Downtown as the Cultural Focal Point                  | 51     |
| ► Recognize and Protect Built Heritage                           | 52     |
| ► Make Downtown Part of the Strategy to Strengthen City Identity | 53     |
| ► Enhance Community Safety and Wellbeing in the Downtown         | 54     |

#### DIRECTION WITH MORE MIXED FEEDBACK

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| ► Encourage a Thriving Downtown through Density, Mobility, and Employment | 49 |
|---|----|



**74%** Community Survey / **79%** Statistical Survey  
SUPPORT



**26%** Community Survey / **21%** Statistical Survey  
DON'T SUPPORT OR SUGGEST CHANGES



#### Written Comment Theme Summary\*

**36%**

General support for more density, mobility, and employment Downtown

**33%**

Concerns about more density, mobility, and employment downtown

**17%**

Concerns about social challenges and public safety Downtown

**14%**

Other comments



### MOBILITY CHOICE

#### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+77% SUPPORT**

- |   | PAGE # |
|---|--------|
| ► Strengthen Mobility in Urban Centres                | 56     |
| ► Ensure New Development has Walkable Streets         | 57     |
| ► Efficient Movement of Commercial Goods and Services | 60     |
| ► Make it Easier to Get Around Without a Car          | 61     |
| ► Invest in Active Mobility Routes                    | 62     |
| ► Follow a Vision Zero Approach                       | 63     |
| ► Develop Complete Streets                            | 64     |

#### DIRECTION WITH MORE MIXED FEEDBACK

- |                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| ► Manage Parking Supply City-Wide | 58 |
|-----------------------------------|----|



**58%** Community Survey / **65%** Statistical Survey  
SUPPORT



**42%** Community Survey / **35%** Statistical Survey  
DON'T SUPPORT OR SUGGEST CHANGES



#### Written Comment Theme Summary\*

**52%**

Generally concerned about impacts to parking

**23%**

Generally support managing parking city-wide, with considerations

**20%**

Generally support managing parking city-wide

**5%**

Other comments

\*Percentages shown are based on the number of times each comment theme reference was counted divided by the total number of references on that topic. See each question for more details about the written comments.



# SURVEY FINDING HIGHLIGHTS



## AFFORDABLE CITY

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+79% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Encourage a Diverse Range of Housing Options	65
▶ Work to Combat Rising Unaffordability	66
▶ Collect Contributions from Development to Support Affordable Housing	67
▶ Encourage Development along Corridors	68
▶ Increase Affordable Access to Food	69
▶ Support Efficient City Services	70
▶ Encourage Affordable Access to Facilities and Services	71



## ACCESS TO NATURE & OUTDOOR RECREATION

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+79% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Maintain an Urban Containment Boundary	82
▶ Adjust the Urban Containment Boundary in South Nanaimo	83
▶ Protect Lands with Special Features	84
▶ Add Parks into Urban Centres	85
▶ Maintain a Natural Character in the City	86
▶ Create an Exceptional Recreational Trails Network	87
▶ Build and Maintain and High Quality Parks System	88



## SUPPORTIVE CITY

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+85% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Encourage Intergenerational Living	72
▶ Improve Access to Healthy Food	73
▶ Reduce Risk of Social Challenges	74
▶ Increase Emergency Preparedness	75
▶ Create Opportunities for Participation in Recreation, Culture & Wellness	76



## A WATERFRONT IDENTITY

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+85% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Continue Extending the Waterfront Walkway	95
▶ Prioritize Waterfront Lands for Future Parks	96
▶ Enhance Waterfront Experiences and Amenities	97
▶ Protect and Enhance Shoreline Environments	98
▶ Increase Water Absorption	99
▶ Adapt Waterfronts to Rising Seas	100
▶ Promote the Waterfront as Part of our Community Identity	101
▶ Recognize Marine-Oriented Employment and Transportation Needs	102
▶ Encourage Public Access, Tourism, and Commercial Activity along the Waterfront	103



## INCLUSIVE & EQUITABLE

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+80% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Continue Working to Advance Truth and Reconciliation	77
▶ Increase Community Equity and Inclusivity	78
▶ Provide Meaningful Engagement Opportunities	79
▶ Improve Access for All	80
▶ Increase Housing Diversity	81





# SURVEY FINDING HIGHLIGHTS



## A GREEN APPROACH

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+76% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions	89
▶ Build Climate Resiliency	91
▶ Increase Green Stormwater Management	92
▶ Promote Sustainable Waste Management	93
▶ Balance Dark Skies and Community Safety	94



## A CENTRAL HUB IDENTITY

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+80% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Invest in Quality Infrastructure	104
▶ Support a Health Care Centre of Excellence	105
▶ Continue to Develop our Tourism Potential	106
▶ Celebrate and Honour First Nations Culture	107
▶ Make Arts & Culture Visible in the City	108
▶ Work with First Nations to Protect Archaeological Features	109
▶ Continue a Heritage Conservation Program	110
▶ Integrate Public Art into the Community	111
▶ Create Opportunities for Public Gathering and Celebration	112
▶ Accelerate Remediation and Adaptive Re-use of Brownfield Sites	113



## GREAT BUSINESSES & JOBS

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+83% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Focus Commercial, Institutional, and Office Jobs in Urban Centres	114
▶ Encourage and Support Eco-Industrial Networks	117
▶ Encourage Investment in People & the Environment	118
▶ Attract New Businesses to Nanaimo	119
▶ Support Growth in the Innovation and Technology Sector	120
▶ Build our Reputation and Identity	121

### DIRECTION WITH MORE MIXED FEEDBACK

▶ Increase and Protect Industrial Lands	115
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**64%** Community Survey / **81%** Statistical Survey  
SUPPORT



**36%** Community Survey / **19%** Statistical Survey  
DON'T SUPPORT OR SUGGEST CHANGES



### Written Comment Theme Summary\*

**44%**

Encouragement for Improved Industrial Business Practices

**26%**

General support for increasing and protecting Industrial lands

**15%**

Encouragement to maintain / better utilize existing Industrial lands

**15%**

Concerns about increasing Industrial lands

\*Percentages shown are based on the number of times each comment theme reference was counted divided by the total number of references on that topic. See each question for more details about the written comments.

# DISCUSSIONS & COMMENTS



[Read this page of highlights for a quick overview of this section.](#)  
[View Section 3.2 for more details.](#)

## HIGHLIGHTS

Between March 4 and April 8, 2022, REIMAGINE NANAIMO hosted events with those interested in learning more about key directions in the draft City Plan and also accepted feedback and comments via written input. Participants in the process were invited to ask questions about their areas of interest and share their comments and suggestions for improvements.

## WHAT WERE COMMON THEMES?

Participants shared broad ideas across all aspects of the draft City Plan, ranging from general suggestions to detailed recommendations on specific policies. Below are a few of the most common areas of feedback, though discussions covered a broad range of topics.

### DOWNTOWN

- ▶ support for embracing its role as Nanaimo's Primary Urban Centre
- ▶ desire to accelerate actions to support improvements in safety and address social challenges

### GREEN APPROACH

- ▶ desire to accelerate decisive actions that will support real progress towards GHG emissions reduction targets
- ▶ interest in further exploring / defining ecological values and ensuring these are protected for the future

### LAND USE DIRECTIONS

- ▶ suggestions to consider further how to make small-scale commercial accessible throughout all areas and neighbourhoods
- ▶ suggestions for Land Use designation refinements within the Newcastle neighbourhood

### SUPPORTIVE CITY

- ▶ desire for creation of integrated care opportunities to increase support for vulnerable community members
- ▶ support for emergency preparation and enabling residents to become more prepared

### NEIGHBOURHOODS

- ▶ support for ongoing neighbourhood engagement
- ▶ suggestions to refine mapping to better articulate neighbourhood boundaries
- ▶ desire for neighbourhood plans to continue to be considered in development applications

### CITY LIVING

- ▶ support for focusing growth (with some suggestions to further limit sprawl)
- ▶ concerns about 2-storey minimums in Centres limiting some opportunities
- ▶ desire for infrastructure (mobility, parks, rec services) to keep pace with growth





REIMAGINE NANAIMO  
with Mayor and Council



# 1 ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

Connecting with the Nanaimo community and listening to what matters to people today is the basis of **REIMAGINE NANAIMO**.

This section provides an overview of how people were invited to participate in the third phase of planning for the City's future.



# 1.1 OVERVIEW

## WHAT IS REIMAGINE NANAIMO?

REIMAGINE NANAIMO is the community's opportunity to create a collective vision and road map for our future city. Together, we will identify our strengths to appreciate what we have today, and look forward to new opportunities to strengthen and grow our community. As our population grows, we need to collectively imagine how our spaces and places will evolve to better meet the needs of our natural environment and of all who call Nanaimo home.



## PURPOSE OF ENGAGEMENT

Great cities aren't created by accident. They are built by residents working together to define their City's future. To plan our path forward, the City of Nanaimo (City) is undertaking an integrated planning process to look at how to align and update our policies and actions to think in a holistic way about our future.

Community engagement is the foundation to *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged* (City Plan) so it reflects community needs. **REIMAGINE NANAIMO** is inviting and recording input from all voices that represent Nanaimo.






This engagement summary documents Phase 3 of the engagement process, which has focused on reviewing key draft City Plan directions to guide how our city will grow from 100,000 today to a potential future population of 140,000. This input will inform refinement of the draft *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged* document.

## ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Generate awareness and invite broad participation.
- ▶ Engage with people of all ages, interests, and lifestyles, involving more people in a community process than Nanaimo has achieved before.
- ▶ Educate about community planning and the role this integrated initiative plays in the future of Nanaimo.
- ▶ Build upon the best practices for public engagement identified by the citizen-based Community Engagement Task Force.
- ▶ Listen carefully to understand priorities and preferences that can inform directions.
- ▶ Communicate findings and articulate how this information flows into the directions developed in *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged*.
- ▶ Facilitate an inclusive and transparent engagement that focuses on shared values and helps build a supported path forward.

## LEVEL OF ENGAGEMENT

The chart below illustrates the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Public Participation Spectrum. The spectrum represents a range of engagement levels, from informing people (on the left), to letting people make the final decision (on the right). REIMAGINE NANAIMO includes a mix of engagement levels throughout the process (all levels shown in green), with most activities focusing between the “Involve” and “Collaborate” levels of the spectrum. Committees of Council have and will continue to provide instrumental input to REIMAGINE NANAIMO and advice to Council. Nanaimo’s elected Council will be delegated to make final decisions on *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged*.

4 ENGAGEMENT LEVELS USED IN REIMAGINE NANAIMO					
					
	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities, and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives, and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE	“The City of Nanaimo will keep you informed.”	“The City of Nanaimo will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.”	“The City of Nanaimo will work with participants to ensure that their concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decisions.”	“The City of Nanaimo will look to participants for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate their advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.”	“The City of Nanaimo will implement what the public decides.”
EXAMPLES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» City’s website</li> <li>» Staff reports and presentations</li> <li>» Print and digital ads</li> <li>» Background information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Stakeholder calls and emails</li> <li>» Surveys</li> <li>» Pop-up conversations</li> <li>» Online digital platform</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Interactive displays</li> <li>» Focus groups</li> <li>» Community workshops</li> <li>» Stakeholder meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Committees</li> <li>» Task Forces</li> <li>» Workshops</li> <li>» Charrettes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Alternate Approval Process</li> <li>» Referendum</li> <li>» Election</li> </ul>

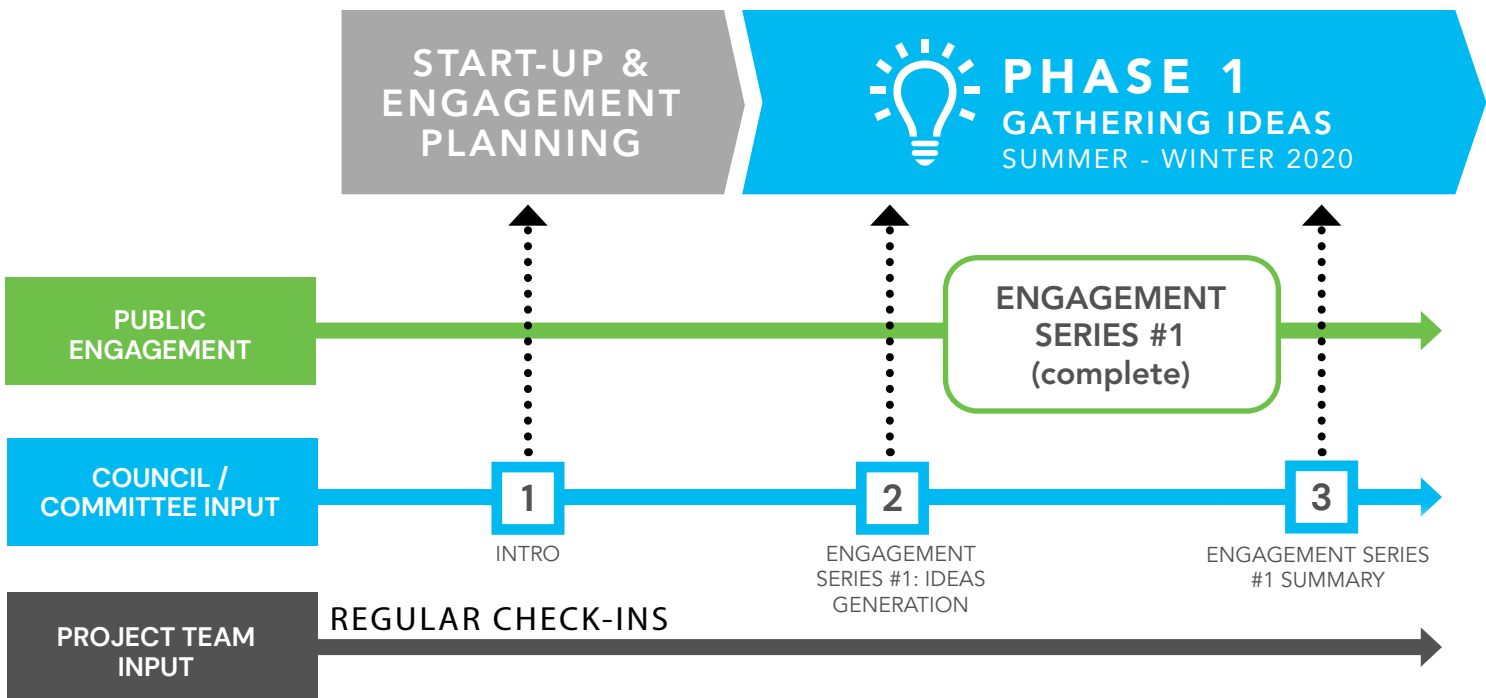
# 1.2 ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

## MOVING FROM BIG IDEAS TO FOCUSED DIRECTION .....

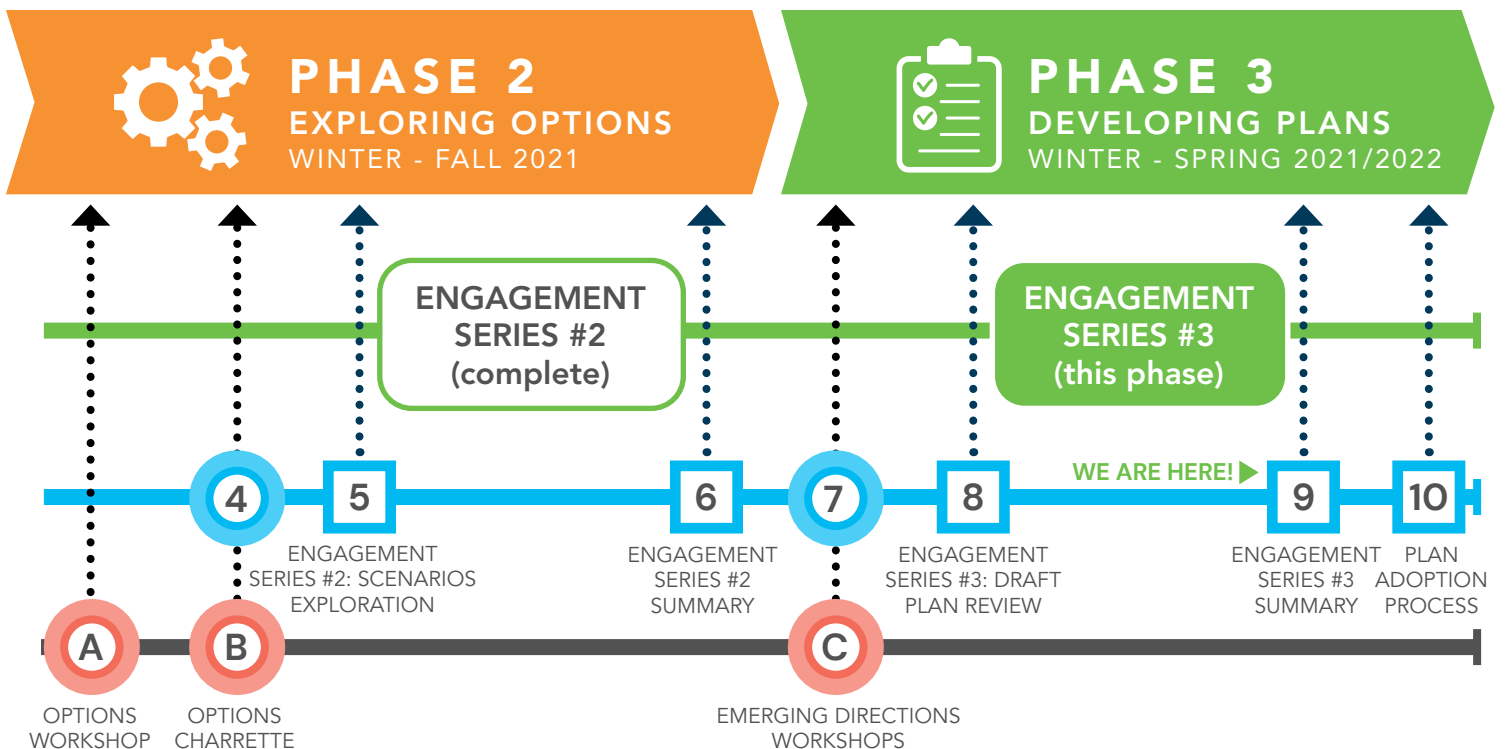
REIMAGINE NANAIMO is an integrated planning process that will ultimately lead to creation of a new guiding plan called *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged* that replaces our current Official Community Plan (OCP) and integrates key policy and direction on parks, recreation, and culture; mobility; climate action; economic development; servicing; and more.

The REIMAGINE NANAIMO process becomes more and more focused with each step. The process began broadly to consider where the city is today and invited input and ideas about where to go in the future. The process became more specific and detailed as it proceeded and a draft plan was developed and refined. REIMAGINE NANAIMO has completed the third stage, Developing the Plan, leading to creation of a first draft of *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged*, which is being reviewed and refined with the community.

The diagram below illustrates the engagement process for REIMAGINE NANAIMO.

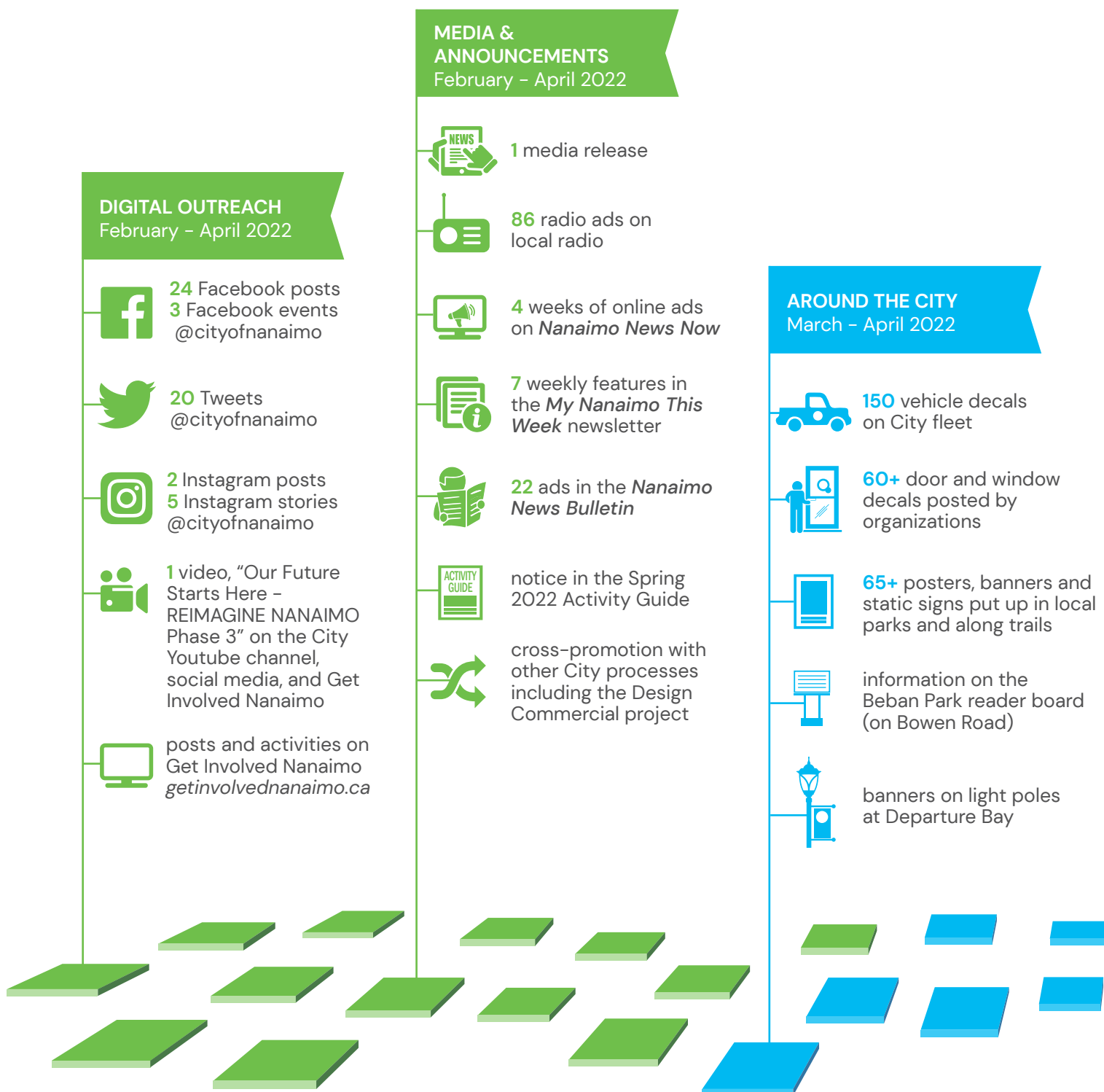






# 1.3 OUTREACH

How did we tell people about Phase 3 of REIMAGINE NANAIMO?



## OUT & ABOUT March – April 2022



**2** pop-ups at the Maple Sugar Festival March 26 & 27



**2** info sheet sets posted in Beban Park Social Centre and SARC windows



**7** static info stations with REIMAGINE information at Beban Park Social Centre, Bowen Park Complex, Oliver Woods Complex, Vancouver Island Regional Library (north and south), Nanaimo Aquatic Centre, SARC

## MEETINGS & EVENTS March – April 2022



**1** in-person Community Information Session at Beban Park Social Centre March 29



**13** information meetings with groups including members of the development community, neighbourhood associations, and interest groups



discussions and input from Committees of Council: Environment Committee and Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness



presentations to GPC on key draft City Plan directions (with meetings streamed online)



**150+** emails / calls to stakeholders and user group representatives, and organizations to invite their participation

## YOUTH & STUDENT OUTREACH March – April 2022



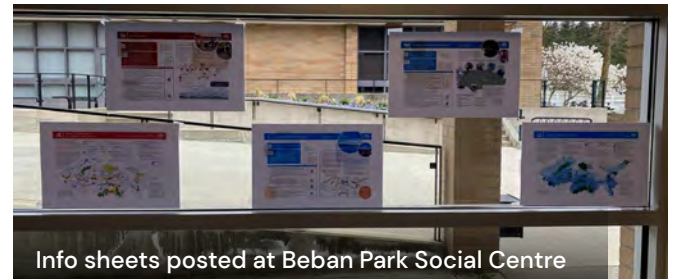
**2** information sessions with VIU students including the Sustainable Cities and Business-Government Relationships programs



SD68 circulation of survey information via social media and teacher newsletters



## What did REIMAGINE NANAIMO Phase 3 outreach look like?







## News Bulletin Community Info Session Ad



**Phase 3: Developing Plans**  
City Plan - Nanaimo Reimagined

Our City, Our Plan.

### Community Information Session

Join us to talk with the project team about the [Draft City Plan - Nanaimo Reimagined](#). The information session will allow residents to:

- View some of the key directions and big moves proposed in the draft plan.
- Ask questions and learn more about the draft plan.
- Complete the paper version of the survey.

**When:** Tuesday, March 29, 2022  
**Where:** Beban Social Centre, The Lounge, 2300 Bowen Rd  
**Time:** Drop in any time between 3:00pm - 8:00pm

**Survey closes April 8th!**

[getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://getinvolvednanaimo.ca)  
[reimagine@nanaimo.ca](mailto:reimagine@nanaimo.ca)  
 250.755.4464




## My Nanaimo This Week Announcement



**Phase 3 begins March 1!**

Nearly two years after the launch of REIMAGINE NANAIMO, we are entering the third and final phase! With it comes a new draft plan for our community: City Plan - Nanaimo Reimagined. In this phase you will have the opportunity to provide your thoughts about the draft plan.

To learn more about what's coming up in Phase 3, watch the Feb 28 [Council meeting](#) at 7 pm for an overview.

**REIMAGINE NANAIMO**




**Don't miss the opportunity to shape YOUR city for the next 25 year**

Taking the feedback shared in Phase 1 and 2, we've drafted a big picture plan on what you, the community would like to see! Review the draft plan outlining what the community wants to achieve and share your final thoughts, go to [getinvolvednanaimo.ca](http://getinvolvednanaimo.ca)

[TAKE QUESTIONNAIRE](#)




## Banner Ad on Nanaimo News Now



**City of Nanaimo Local Government**  
April 7 at 7:02 PM

REIMAGINE NANAIMO is in the third and final phase! This is your **LAST** opportunity to provide your thoughts about the draft city plan - Nanaimo Reimagined. **Survey closes April 8**

<http://ow.ly/Htph50lpG76>



Facebook Post

# 1.4 PHASE 3 ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

How was REIMAGINE NANAIMO input received during Phase 3?



## Draft City Plan Community Survey

To gain community feedback the draft *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged*, the Community Survey asked participants to review key directions and share their level of support for each, along with their ideas for improvements. The survey was open to all participants.

+



## Draft City Plan Statistical Survey

A Statistical Survey, which asked the same questions as the Community Survey, was mailed to a random sample of 2,000 Nanaimo addresses to obtain a statistically-valid response.

+



## Story Map & Info Sheets

The Story Map & Info Sheets were created to summarize key directions contained in *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged*. These materials provided an interactive journey for people seeking to learn about the bigger moves being considered.



## Community Pop-ups

At community pop-ups during the Maple Sugar Festival on Saturday, March 26 and Sunday March 27, City staff shared information, had conversations, and encouraged community members to participate in the surveys.

+



## Community Info Session

To provide opportunities for participants to view information, talk with the project team, and get answers to questions, the City held a drop-in community info session at Beban Park Social Centre Lounge on Tuesday, March 29 between 3 and 8 pm.

+



## Information Meetings

City staff met with Neighbourhood Associations, the development community, the Chamber of Commerce, VIU students, interest groups, and others to share information on potential areas of interest within the draft City Plan and hear questions and feedback.





Poster at Beban Arena



## 2 WHO PARTICIPATED?

This section summarizes who participated in the second phase of engagement, and how participation compares with the City of Nanaimo's demographic profile.

This information helps identify how input reflects the make-up of our community, and potential gaps and focus areas for future engagements.



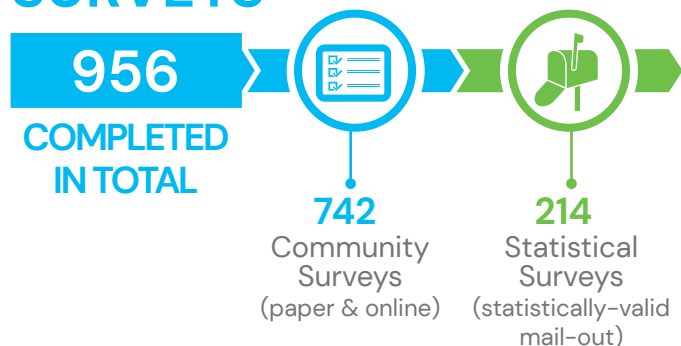




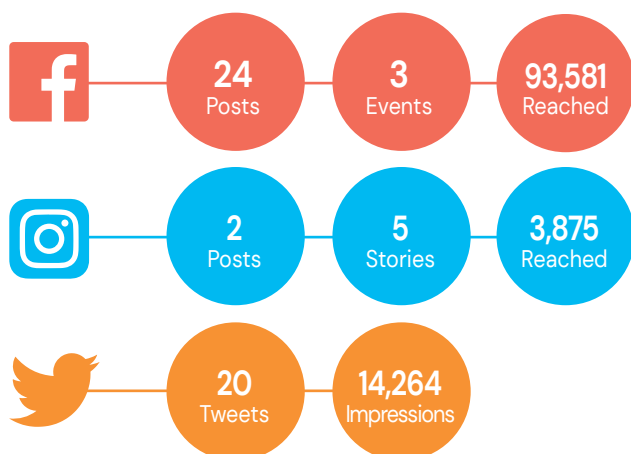
## 2.1 PARTICIPATION HIGHLIGHTS



### SURVEYS



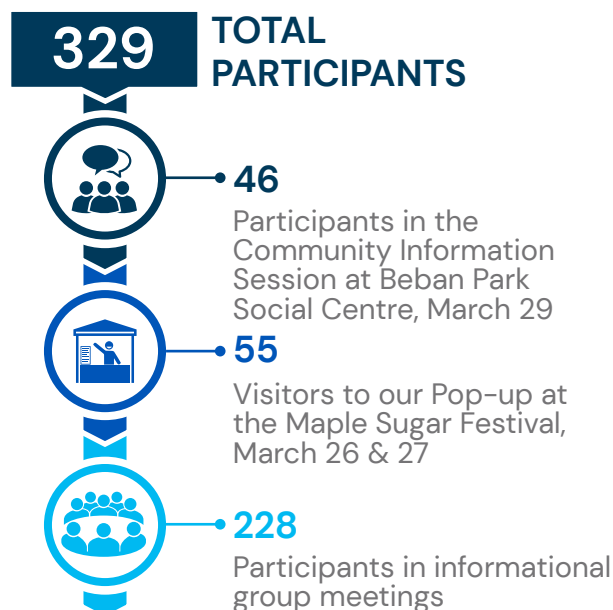
### SOCIAL MEDIA STATS



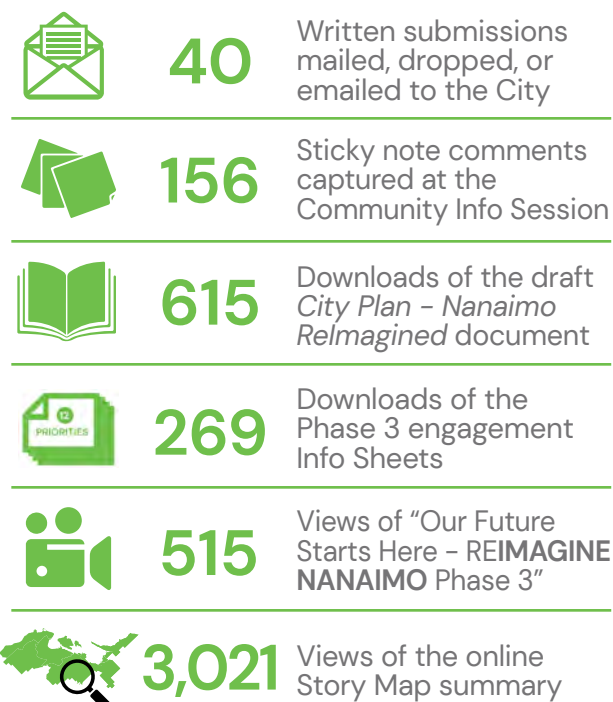
### GET INVOLVED NANAIMO



### MEETING & EVENT PARTICIPANTS



### OTHER CONNECTIONS





## 2.2 PARTICIPANT DETAILS

To get a sense of who participated in the Phase 3 engagement process, the Community Survey and the Statistical Survey asked participants key questions about themselves. The following charts summarize participant responses compared with demographic details of the city.

### NOTES:

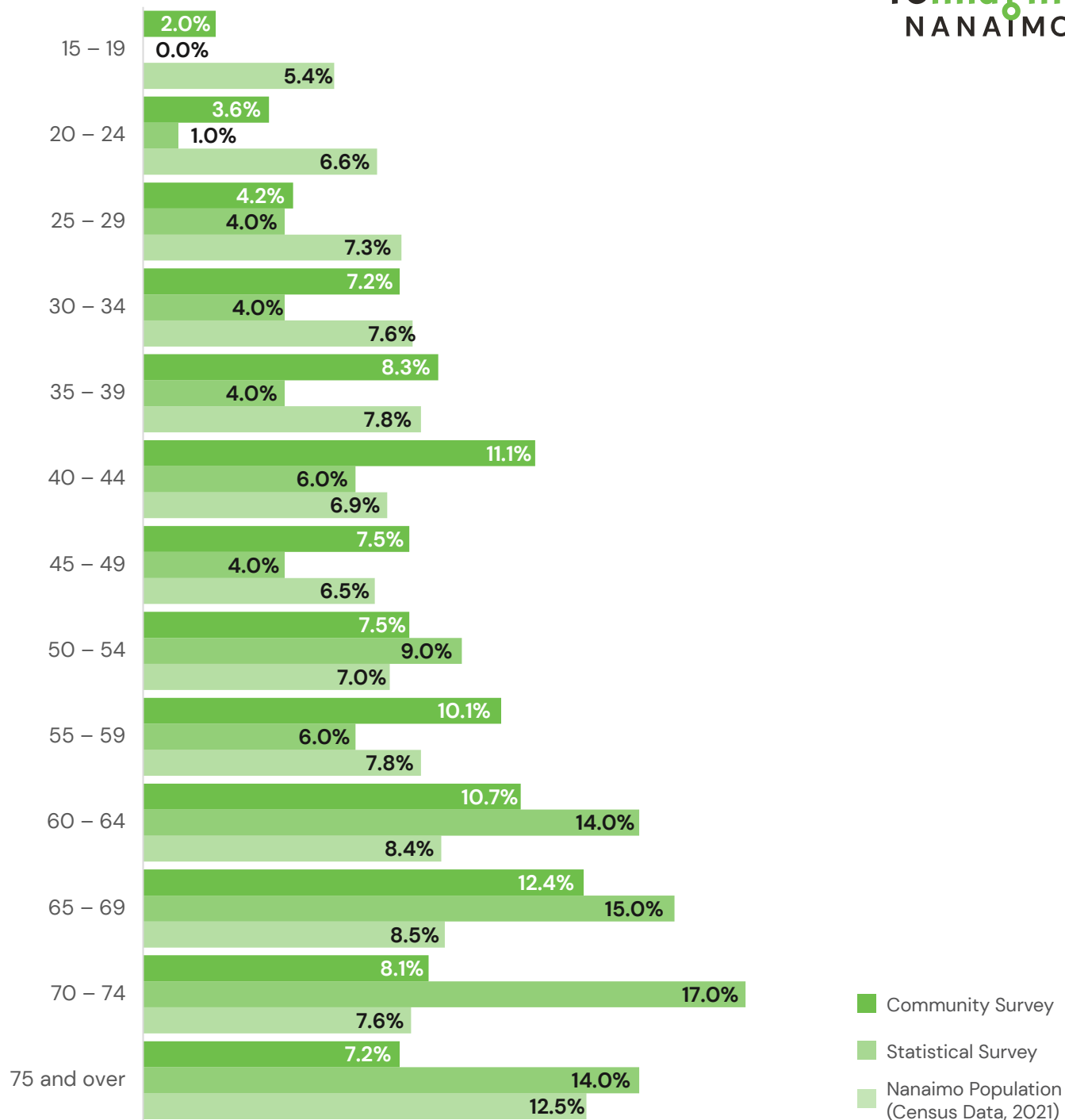
- ▶ Demographic information was collected through the Community Survey and Statistical Survey only. Other sources of input including online meetings, written submissions, and other inputs did not collect demographic information and therefore are not represented here.
- ▶ Each question identifies sources of information beneath the title.
- ▶ Not all percentages will add up to 100% due to rounding or the nature of the question
- ▶ The most current Census data available at the time of publishing was used for the Nanaimo Population. Year of Census Data is noted for each applicable chart.





## PARTICIPANT AGE

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



### KEY OBSERVATIONS

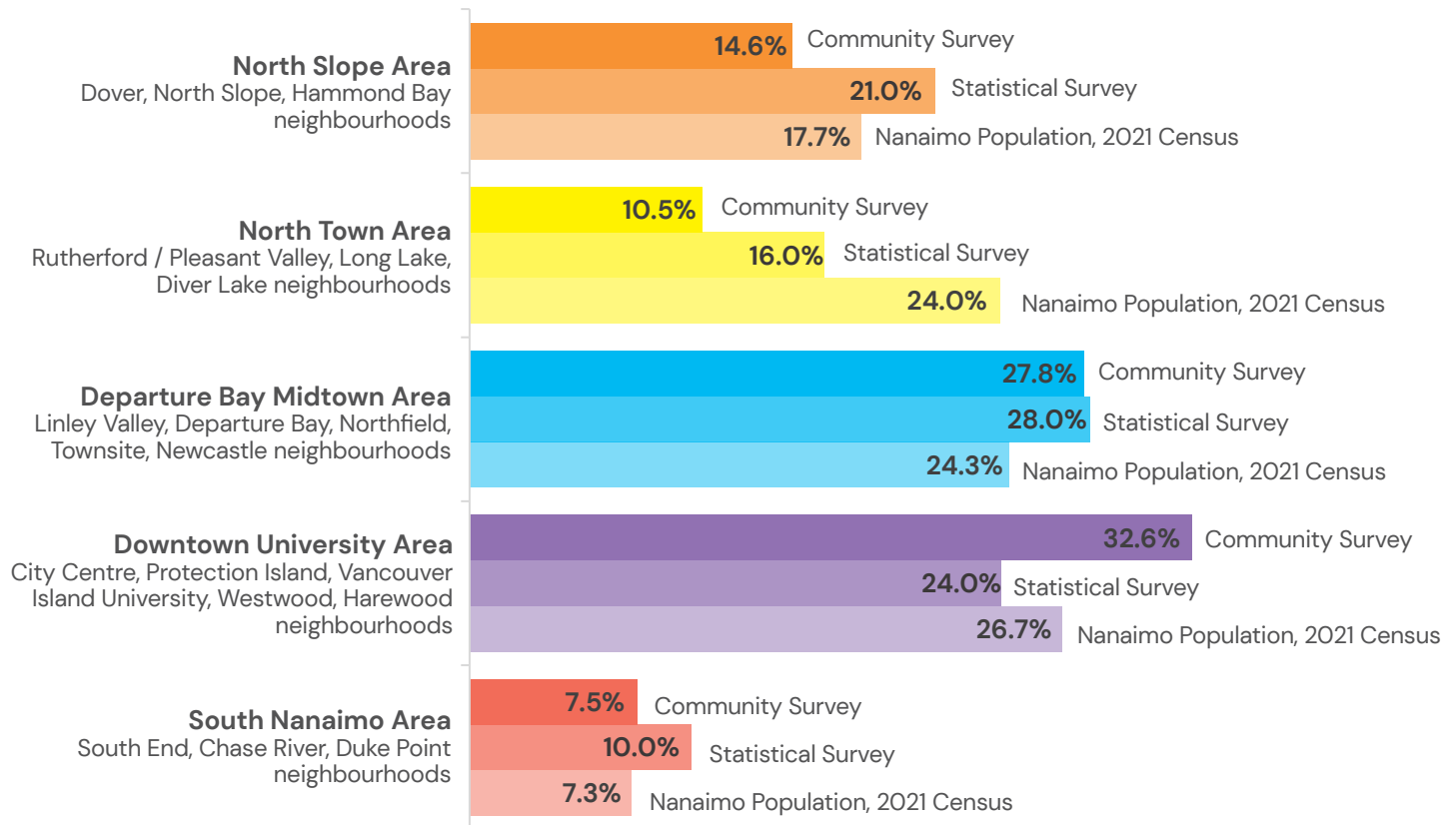
- ▶ Between the two surveys, most age groups in Nanaimo were well represented, with more limited participation from people under 25
- ▶ Participants 60+ saw higher representation for the Statistical Survey
- ▶ The Community Survey had a relatively even distribution of demographics participating with the exception of those under 30 (less participation)



## GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

The chart below summarizes participation from five geographical areas in Nanaimo. The map on the adjacent page indicates which neighbourhoods fall in each area and the colours on the chart correspond with the map colours.



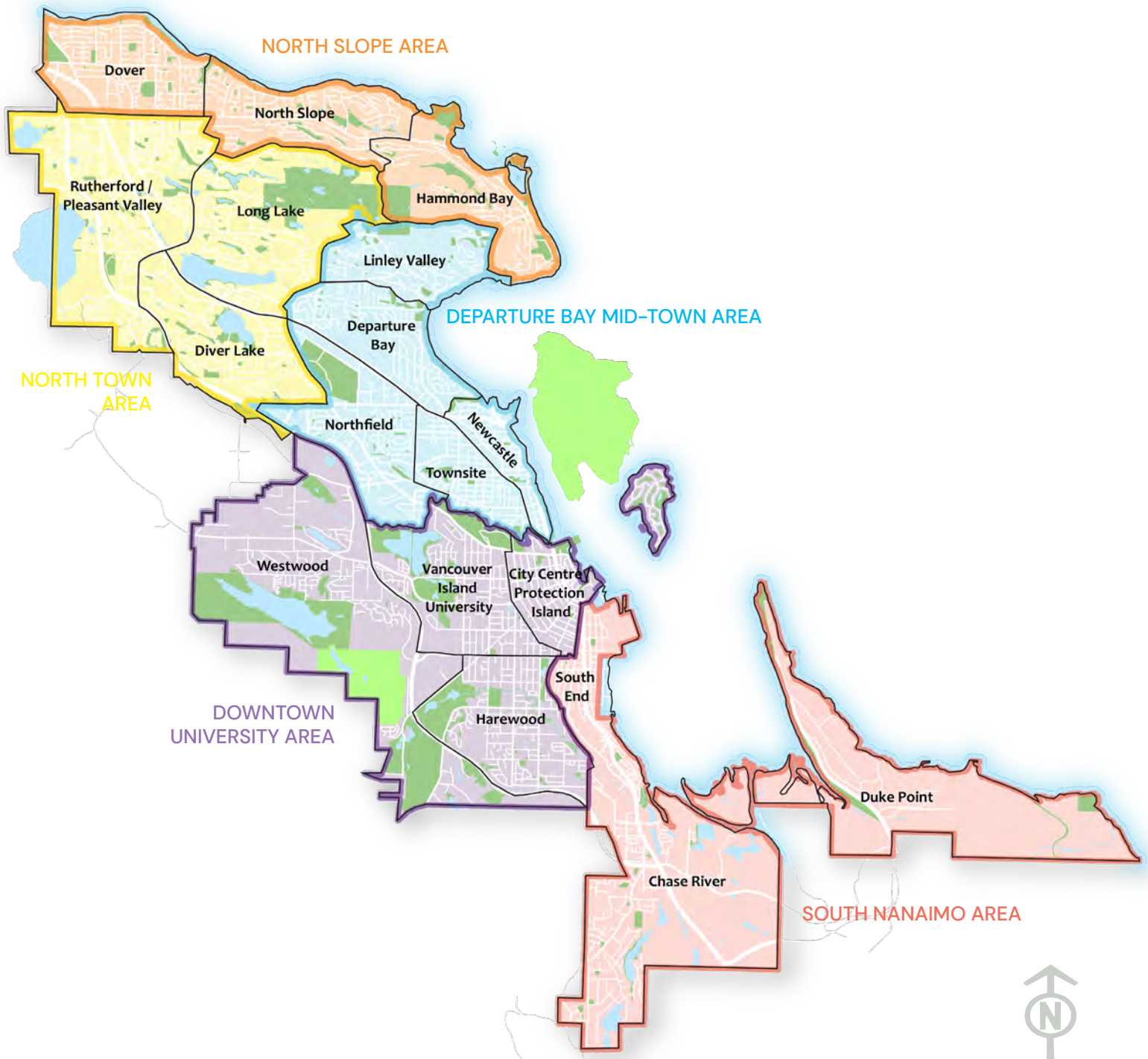
**NOTE:** 7.0% of participants in the Community Survey and 1.0% of participants in the Statistical Survey identified as being from outside Nanaimo including Snuneymuxw First Nation, Snaw-Naw-As (Nanoose First Nation), Lantzville, other areas of the RDN, and other locations.

### KEY OBSERVATIONS

- ▶ All parts of the city were represented in both the Community Survey and Statistical Survey
- ▶ Geographical representation through the Community Survey indicated greater representation in the Downtown University Area, while the North Town Area was less represented
- ▶ Geographical representation through the Statistical Survey indicated slightly greater representation in the North Slope and Departure Bay Midtown Areas and slightly lower representation in the North Town Area



## NANAIMO AREAS & NEIGHBOURHOODS MAP



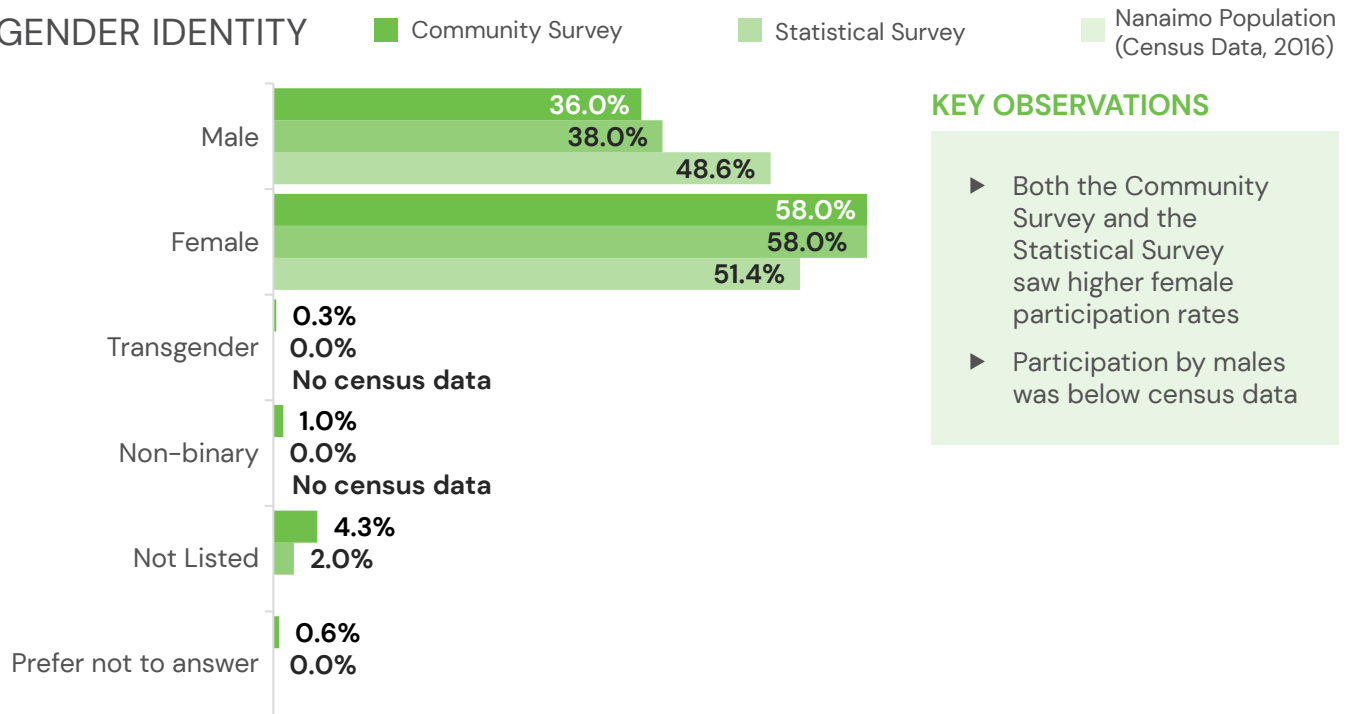




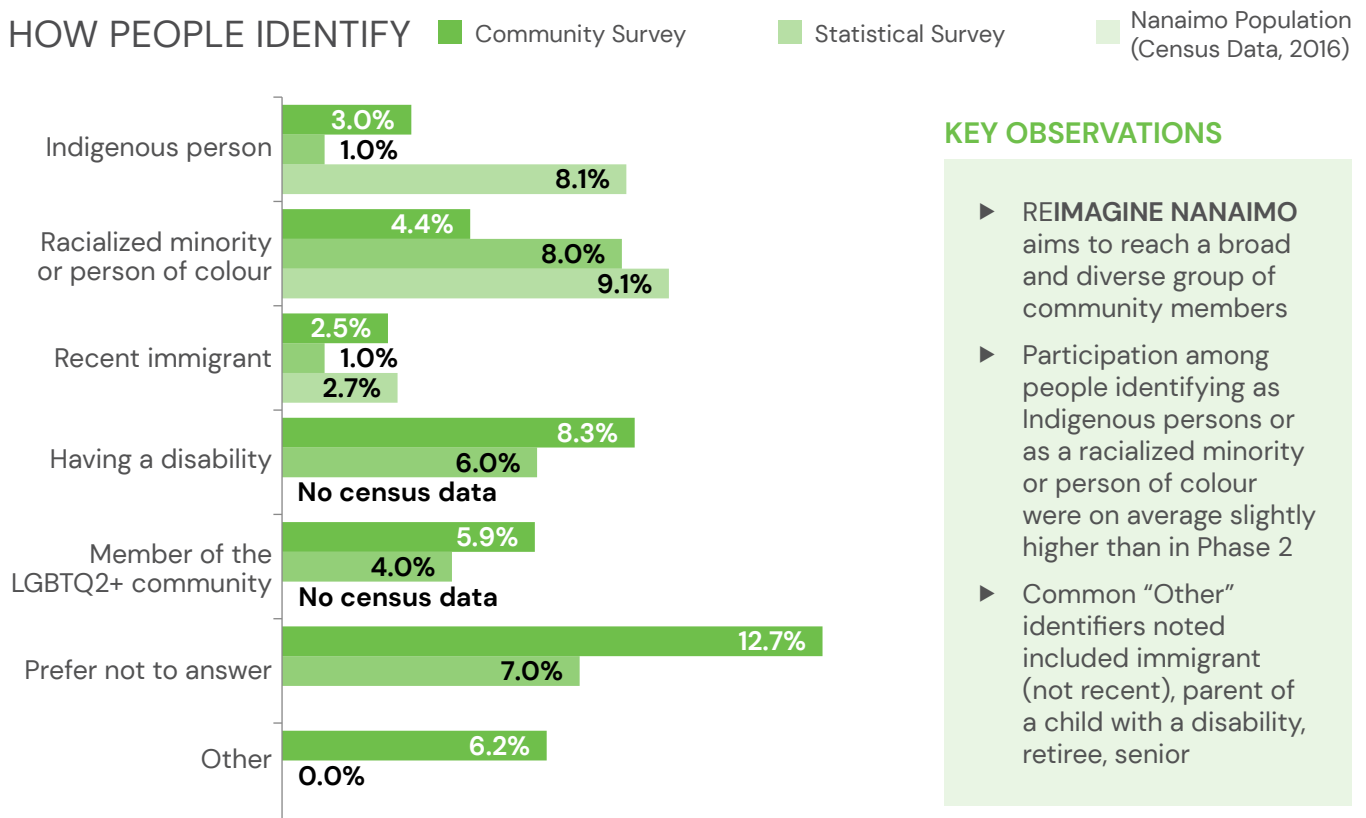
## PARTICIPANT IDENTITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### GENDER IDENTITY

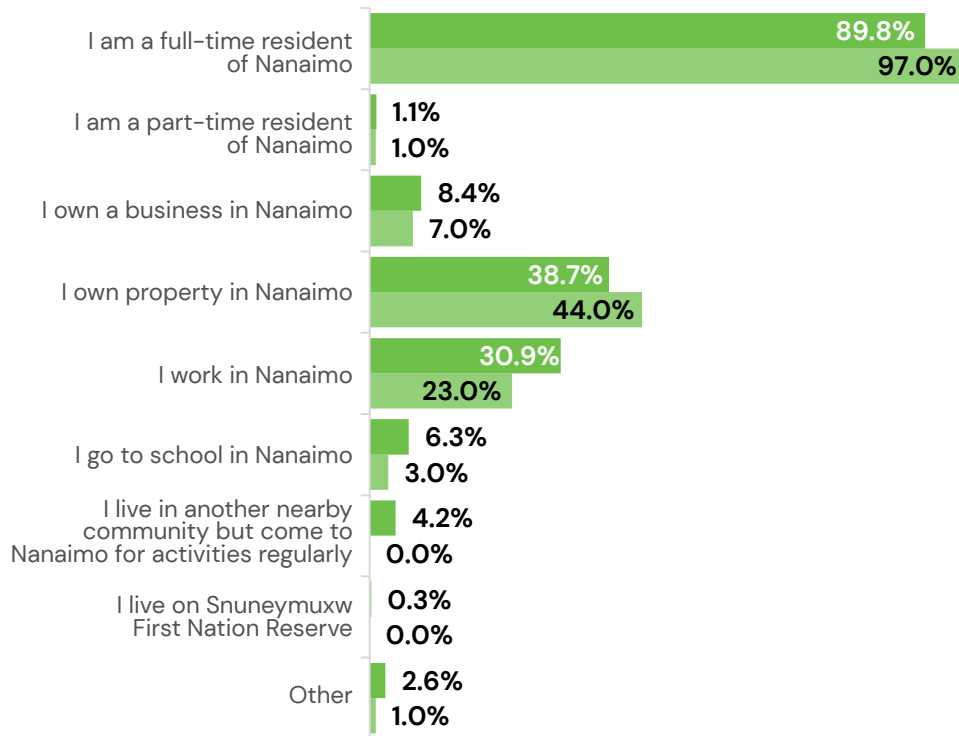


### HOW PEOPLE IDENTIFY





## HOW DO PEOPLE DESCRIBE THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO NANAIMO?



### KEY OBSERVATIONS

- ▶ Most participants are full-time Nanaimo residents
- ▶ "Other" relationships noted included international student, online student enrolled in a remote university, seasonal full time resident, retiree, born in Nanaimo

Community Survey  
Statistical Survey



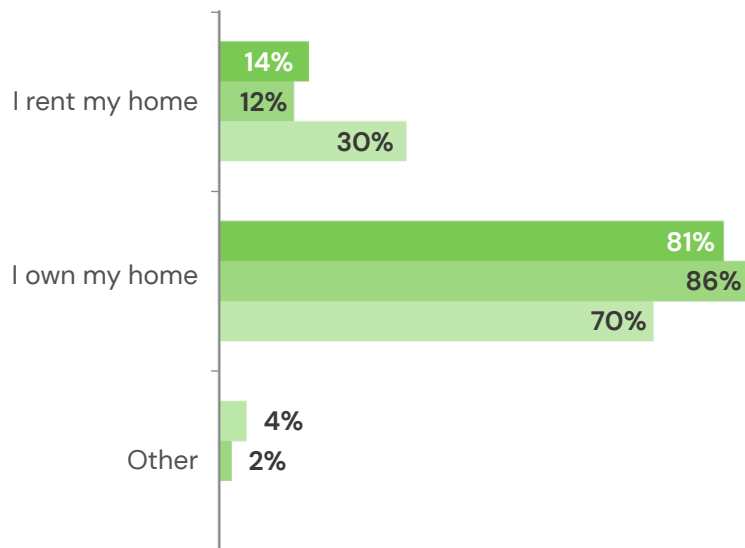
Ballet Class



## HOUSING TENURE & TYPE

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### DO PEOPLE RENT OR OWN?

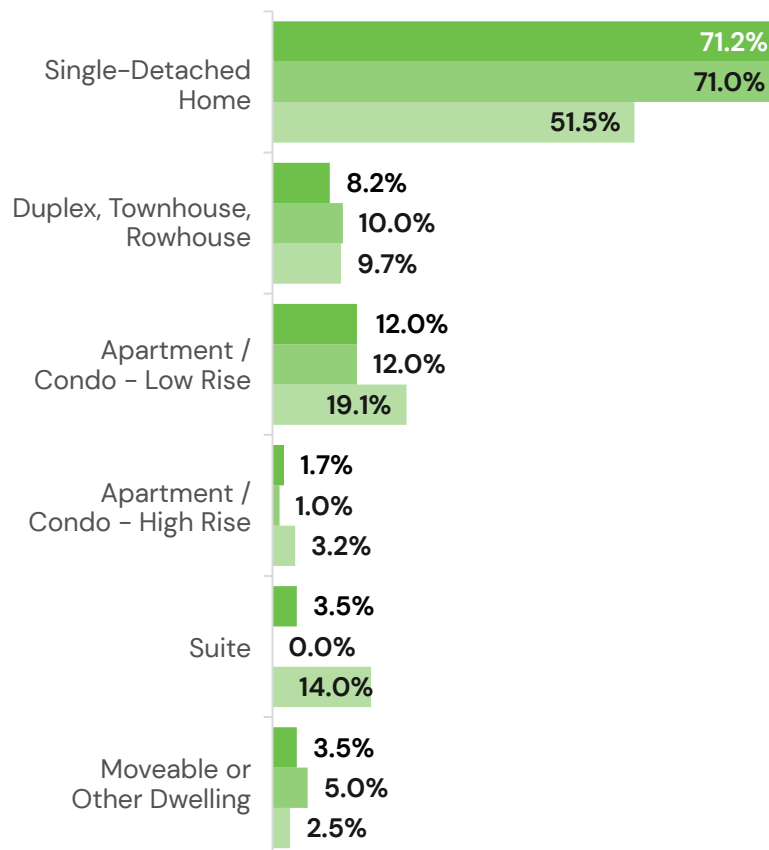


#### KEY OBSERVATIONS

- Similar to Phase 1 and Phase 2, participation by home owners was higher than the census owner / renter split

- Community Survey
- Statistical Survey
- Nanaimo Population (Census Data, 2016)

### WHAT TYPE OF HOUSING DO PEOPLE LIVE IN?



#### KEY OBSERVATIONS

- Representation of participants living in single-family homes was higher than the proportion of this housing type in the City
- Representation of participants living in low-rise apartment / condo or suites were lower than the proportion of this housing type in the City

- Community Survey
- Statistical Survey
- Nanaimo Population (Census Data, 2021)





## 3 WHAT WE HEARD

In Phase 1 of REIMAGINE NANAIMO, participants shared what they love about Nanaimo, what concerns them, and ideas for the future.

Phase 2 was the exploratory part of the journey – an opportunity to talk about ideas, test different choices, and identify gaps.

Phase 3 (the focus of this summary) was about reviewing directions in the draft *City Plan – Nanaimo ReImagined*. Key directions were brought forward for community consideration and the entire draft plan was made available for anyone wishing to comment.

Input was collected through:

- ▶ A Draft Review Survey conducted two ways:
  - » A Statistical Survey process that gathered input via a mail-out survey to a representative sample of Nanaimo residents
  - » A voluntary Community Survey that gathered input via an online or paper survey open to all interested participants
  - » Both formats asked similar questions, allowing a look at how feedback from a statistical sample compares with voluntary feedback
- ▶ Input shared during meetings with stakeholders or interest groups, at the community information session, and at pop-up events
- ▶ Written correspondence sent to the City







## 3.1 PHASE 3 COMMUNITY SURVEY



Read the following four pages of highlights for a quick overview of this section.  
View the pages that follow to find more details.

The **Phase 3 Community Survey** was an opportunity to gather feedback on key directions in the draft *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged*. Input received through the survey will be used alongside input from individuals, stakeholders, agencies, and Committees of Council to identify potential refinements to the City Plan document.

### SURVEY DISTRIBUTION

The survey was distributed in two formats:

- ▶ A **Statistical Survey** gathered input through a mail-out survey to a representative sample of residents.
- ▶ A voluntary **Community Survey** gathered input via an online or paper survey open to all interested people.

Both formats asked the same questions allowing comparative analysis. Results from both formats are summarized in the following pages.

### SURVEY QUESTIONS

Participants had an opportunity to indicate their level of support for a total of 84 general policy directions and share comments or suggestions to improve draft directions. Questions were organized around **12 Priorities for Progress** (below), reflecting values the Nanaimo community identified through the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process. Each section included a series of related key directions from the draft City Plan and asked for participants' level of support for each draft direction as well as their comments and suggestions for improvements. The following pages summarize each section.



**City Living**



**Livable Neighbourhoods**



**A Thriving & Creative Downtown**



**Mobility Choice**



**Affordable City**



**Supportive City**



**Inclusive & Equitable**



**Access to Nature & Outdoor Recreation**



**A Green Approach**



**A Waterfront Identity**



**Central Hub Identity**



**Great Businesses & Jobs**



## SURVEY FINDING HIGHLIGHTS

This overview provides an overview of all the key directions that had general support, as well as those where more mixed feedback was identified. Visit the **page number** listed beside each key direction to learn more about that direction and the comments participants shared about it.



### CITY LIVING

#### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+75% SUPPORT**

- |  | PAGE # |
|--|--------|
| ► Focus Future Growth in Existing Centres                      | 29     |
| ► Make Downtown our Primary Urban Centre                       | 30     |
| ► Create Secondary Urban Centres around Existing Activity Hubs | 31     |
| ► Support Smaller Neighbourhood Centres with Local Services    | 32     |
| ► Avoid Large Areas of Surface Parking & Drive-Thrus           | 35     |
| ► Plan Mobility Routes between Centres as Corridors            | 36     |
| ► Define Mixed-use & Residential Corridors in the City         | 37     |

#### DIRECTION WITH MORE MIXED FEEDBACK

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| ► Support Large-Format Retail that is Designed to be Pedestrian-Friendly and Mixed-use | 33 |
|--|----|

**51%** Community Survey / **56%** Statistical Survey  
SUPPORT

**49%** Community Survey / **44%** Statistical Survey  
DON'T SUPPORT OR SUGGEST CHANGES

#### Written Comment Theme Summary\*

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| <b>45%</b> | Support some large-format retail, but with considerations |
| <b>43%</b> | Generally do not support large-format retail              |
| <b>6%</b>  | Desire for more large-format retail                       |
| <b>6%</b>  | Other comments  |



### LIVABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

#### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+78% SUPPORT**

- |   | PAGE # |
|---|--------|
| ► Define Neighbourhoods & Suburban Neighbourhoods in the City   | 38     |
| ► Provide Gentle Transitions in Building Forms  | 40     |
| ► Fill Gaps in Neighbourhood-Scale Services   | 43     |
| ► Create a Land Use Designation for the Old City Quarter  | 44     |
| ► Support Parks, Trails, and Walkable Streets in all Neighbourhoods   | 45     |
| ► Secure Spaces for Recreation, Culture, & Wellness Programs throughout the Community                             | 46     |
| ► Develop Area Plans in Areas Where Growth is Expected and Engage Regularly with all Neighbourhoods on Priorities | 47     |

#### DIRECTION WITH MORE MIXED FEEDBACK

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| ► Support Low to Modest Infill in Neighbourhoods | 41 |
|--|----|

**72%** Community Survey / **77%** Statistical Survey  
SUPPORT

**28%** Community Survey / **23%** Statistical Survey  
DON'T SUPPORT OR SUGGEST CHANGES

#### Written Comment Theme Summary\*

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| <b>43%</b> | General support for thoughtful, modest infill |
| <b>24%</b> | Suggestions or ideas to consider for infill   |
| <b>5%</b>  | Desire for more infill and density            |
| <b>6%</b>  | Concerns about more infill and density        |
| <b>6%</b>  | Other comments                                |



## SURVEY FINDING HIGHLIGHTS



### THRIVING & CREATIVE DOWNTOWN

#### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+79% SUPPORT**

- |  | PAGE # |
|--|--------|
| ► Position Downtown as the Cultural Focal Point                  | 51     |
| ► Recognize and Protect Built Heritage                           | 52     |
| ► Make Downtown Part of the Strategy to Strengthen City Identity | 53     |
| ► Enhance Community Safety and Wellbeing in the Downtown         | 54     |

#### DIRECTION WITH MORE MIXED FEEDBACK

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| ► Encourage a Thriving Downtown through Density, Mobility, and Employment | 49 |
|---|----|



**74%** Community Survey / **79%** Statistical Survey  
SUPPORT



**26%** Community Survey / **21%** Statistical Survey  
DON'T SUPPORT OR SUGGEST CHANGES



#### Written Comment Theme Summary\*

**36%**

General support for more density, mobility, and employment Downtown

**33%**

Concerns about more density, mobility, and employment downtown

**17%**

Concerns about social challenges and public safety Downtown

**14%**

Other comments



### MOBILITY CHOICE

#### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+77% SUPPORT**

- |   | PAGE # |
|---|--------|
| ► Strengthen Mobility in Urban Centres                | 56     |
| ► Ensure New Development has Walkable Streets         | 57     |
| ► Efficient Movement of Commercial Goods and Services | 60     |
| ► Make it Easier to Get Around Without a Car          | 61     |
| ► Invest in Active Mobility Routes                    | 62     |
| ► Follow a Vision Zero Approach                       | 63     |
| ► Develop Complete Streets                            | 64     |

#### DIRECTION WITH MORE MIXED FEEDBACK

- |                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| ► Manage Parking Supply City-Wide | 58 |
|-----------------------------------|----|



**58%** Community Survey / **65%** Statistical Survey  
SUPPORT



**42%** Community Survey / **35%** Statistical Survey  
DON'T SUPPORT OR SUGGEST CHANGES



#### Written Comment Theme Summary\*

**52%**

Generally concerned about impacts to parking

**23%**

Generally support managing parking city-wide, with considerations

**20%**

Generally support managing parking city-wide

**5%**

Other comments

\*Percentages shown are based on the number of times each comment theme reference was counted divided by the total number of references on that topic. See each question for more details about the written comments.





# SURVEY FINDING HIGHLIGHTS



## AFFORDABLE CITY

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+79% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Encourage a Diverse Range of Housing Options	65
▶ Work to Combat Rising Unaffordability	66
▶ Collect Contributions from Development to Support Affordable Housing	67
▶ Encourage Development along Corridors	68
▶ Increase Affordable Access to Food	69
▶ Support Efficient City Services	70
▶ Encourage Affordable Access to Facilities and Services	71



## ACCESS TO NATURE & OUTDOOR RECREATION

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+79% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Maintain an Urban Containment Boundary	82
▶ Adjust the Urban Containment Boundary in South Nanaimo	83
▶ Protect Lands with Special Features	84
▶ Add Parks into Urban Centres	85
▶ Maintain a Natural Character in the City	86
▶ Create an Exceptional Recreational Trails Network	87
▶ Build and Maintain and High Quality Parks System	88



## SUPPORTIVE CITY

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+85% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Encourage Intergenerational Living	72
▶ Improve Access to Healthy Food	73
▶ Reduce Risk of Social Challenges	74
▶ Increase Emergency Preparedness	75
▶ Create Opportunities for Participation in Recreation, Culture & Wellness	76



## A WATERFRONT IDENTITY

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+85% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Continue Extending the Waterfront Walkway	95
▶ Prioritize Waterfront Lands for Future Parks	96
▶ Enhance Waterfront Experiences and Amenities	97
▶ Protect and Enhance Shoreline Environments	98
▶ Increase Water Absorption	99
▶ Adapt Waterfronts to Rising Seas	100
▶ Promote the Waterfront as Part of our Community Identity	101
▶ Recognize Marine-Oriented Employment and Transportation Needs	102
▶ Encourage Public Access, Tourism, and Commercial Activity along the Waterfront	103



## INCLUSIVE & EQUITABLE

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+80% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Continue Working to Advance Truth and Reconciliation	77
▶ Increase Community Equity and Inclusivity	78
▶ Provide Meaningful Engagement Opportunities	79
▶ Improve Access for All	80
▶ Increase Housing Diversity	81



# SURVEY FINDING HIGHLIGHTS



## A GREEN APPROACH

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+76% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions	89
▶ Build Climate Resiliency	91
▶ Increase Green Stormwater Management	92
▶ Promote Sustainable Waste Management	93
▶ Balance Dark Skies and Community Safety	94



## A CENTRAL HUB IDENTITY

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+80% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Invest in Quality Infrastructure	104
▶ Support a Health Care Centre of Excellence	105
▶ Continue to Develop our Tourism Potential	106
▶ Celebrate and Honour First Nations Culture	107
▶ Make Arts & Culture Visible in the City	108
▶ Work with First Nations to Protect Archaeological Features	109
▶ Continue a Heritage Conservation Program	110
▶ Integrate Public Art into the Community	111
▶ Create Opportunities for Public Gathering and Celebration	112
▶ Accelerate Remediation and Adaptive Re-use of Brownfield Sites	113



## GREAT BUSINESSES & JOBS

### DIRECTIONS WITH GENERAL SUPPORT FROM PARTICIPANTS

**+83% SUPPORT**

	PAGE #
▶ Focus Commercial, Institutional, and Office Jobs in Urban Centres	114
▶ Encourage and Support Eco-Industrial Networks	117
▶ Encourage Investment in People & the Environment	118
▶ Attract New Businesses to Nanaimo	119
▶ Support Growth in the Innovation and Technology Sector	120
▶ Build our Reputation and Identity	121

### DIRECTION WITH MORE MIXED FEEDBACK

▶ Increase and Protect Industrial Lands	115
---	-----



**64%** Community Survey / **81%** Statistical Survey  
SUPPORT



**36%** Community Survey / **19%** Statistical Survey  
DON'T SUPPORT OR SUGGEST CHANGES



### Written Comment Theme Summary\*

**44%**

Encouragement for Improved Industrial Business Practices

**26%**

General support for increasing and protecting Industrial lands

**15%**

Encouragement to maintain / better utilize existing Industrial lands

**15%**

Concerns about increasing Industrial lands

\*Percentages shown are based on the number of times each comment theme reference was counted divided by the total number of references on that topic. See each question for more details about the written comments.



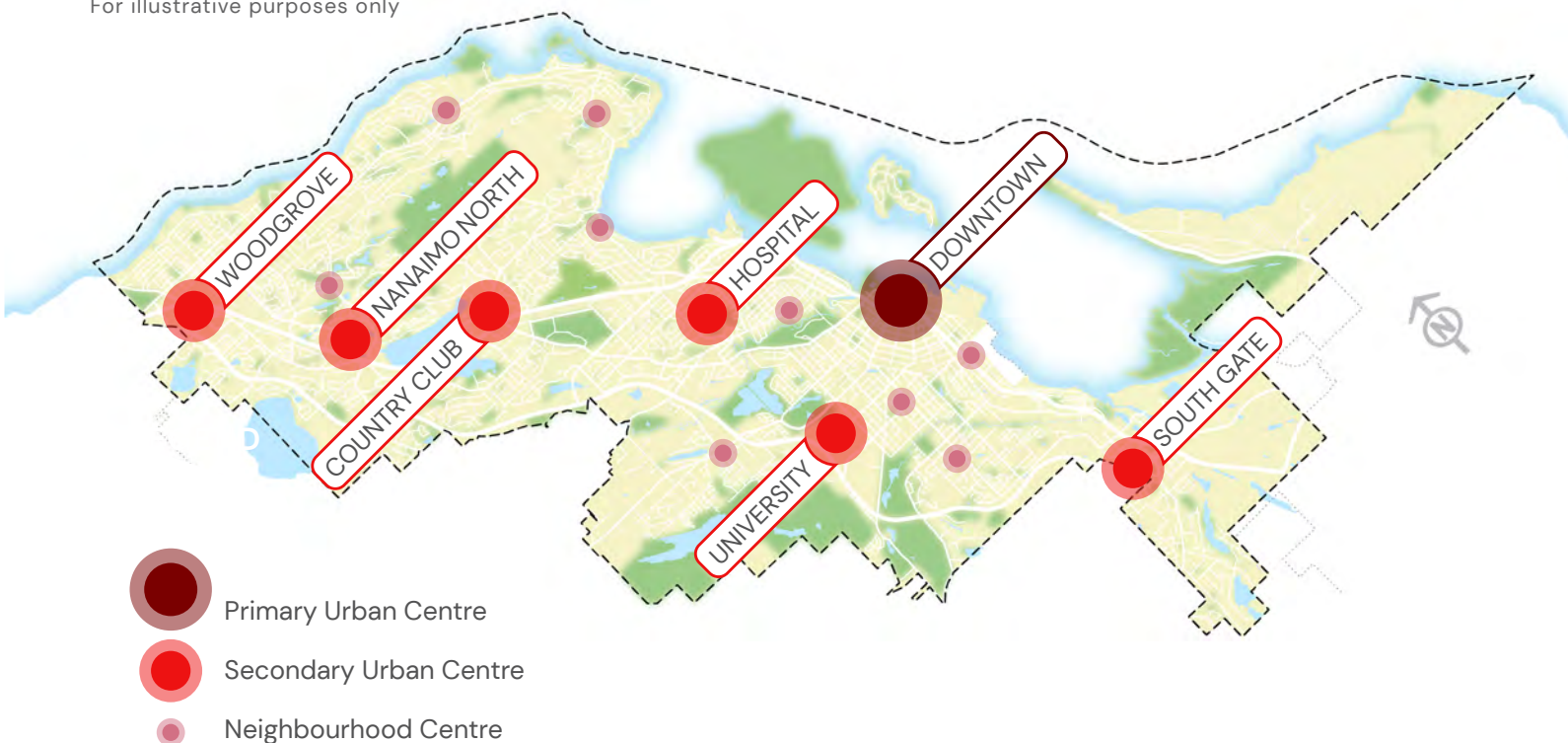
The following pages provide a more detailed look at community feedback on each key direction explored in the Community Survey and Statistical Survey.

### 3.1.1 CITY LIVING

The draft City Plan encourages focused growth in areas where jobs and services exist today as well as along key mobility Corridors and in Neighbourhood Centres where residents have access to services and transportation. By strategically focusing growth, we can accelerate creation of the green, walkable, and vibrant Centres that community members envision for our future.

#### Map 1: Proposed Centres

For illustrative purposes only

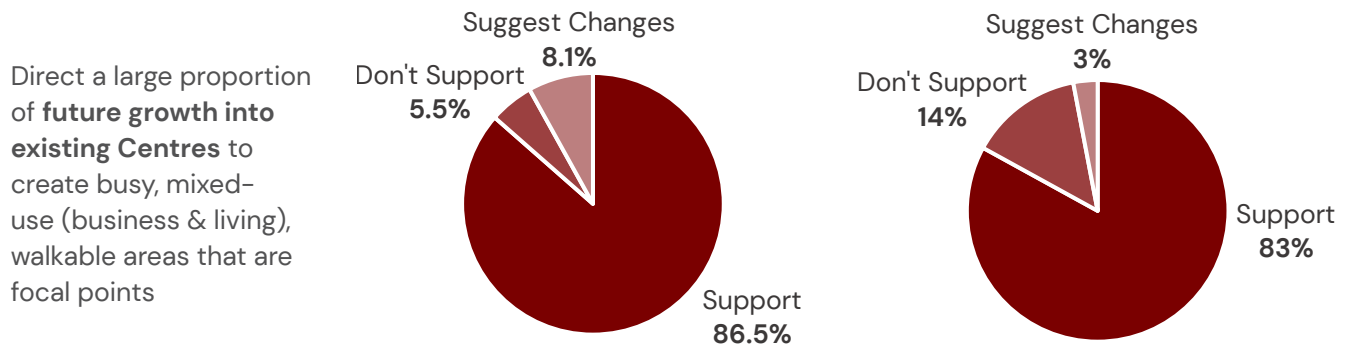




## SURVEY RESULTS

Participants were asked about their level of support for **8 key directions related to City Living**.

Key Direction	Community Survey	Statistical Survey
<b>Focus Future Growth in Existing Centres</b>		



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Number / Location / Height of Centres:

- ▶ Consider limiting number of Centres to achieve critical mass (don't spread too thin)
- ▶ Increase the number of Neighbourhood Centres to create walkable villages
- ▶ Limit heights to 6 storeys outside Downtown
- ▶ Limit tall buildings near the waterfront
- ▶ Mixed feedback on residential near highways:
  - » Some concerns about noise / livability impacts
  - » Some preferences for dense areas near highways for access / traffic

### Transportation

- ▶ Improve transit throughout city (not only in Centres)
- ▶ Concerns about loss of automobile access / parking as Centres become denser
- ▶ Increase EV charging in Centres
- ▶ Ensure complete streets / walkability in and to Centres
- ▶ Resolve transportation issues to support successful Centres (e.g., South Gate area)

### Challenges

- ▶ Take steps to address social / safety issues to support success of Centres
- ▶ Increase speed for development approvals
- ▶ Prioritize quality of design in Centres
- ▶ Concerns about potential impacts of rapid growth on existing residents
- ▶ Take further steps to encourage desirable development (e.g., create a Municipal Development Corporation)
- ▶ Balance growth with Doughnut Economic framework (i.e., within ecological boundaries)
- ▶ Consider how to limit noise to support livability

### Services & Amenities

- ▶ Encourage / support small businesses (not just large-format retail)
- ▶ Encourage health care services in all Centres
- ▶ Make space for schools in Centres
- ▶ Add lighting / encourage positive evening activity
- ▶ Include greenspace and trees in all areas





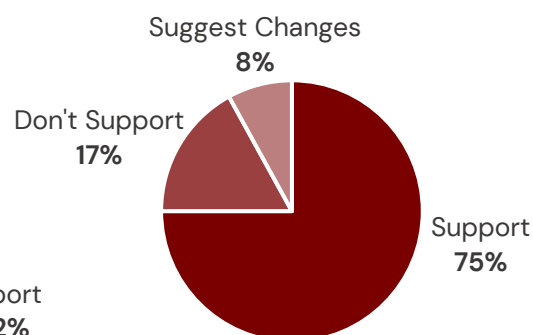
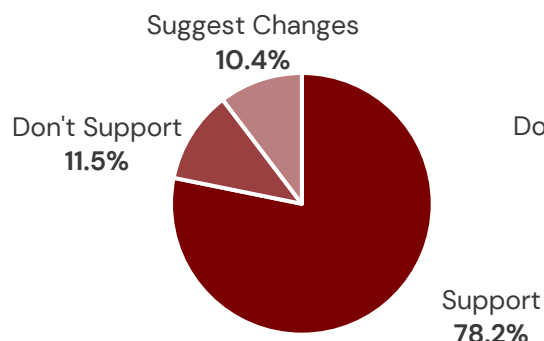
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Make Downtown our Primary Urban Centre

Develop **Downtown** as our **Primary Urban Centre** – our distinct cultural, economic, tourism, and mobility hub with the highest concentration of residents and jobs



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Primary Urban Centre Land Use Designation

- ▶ Concerns about waterfront high rises / focus high rises in strategic locations only
- ▶ Incentivize re-purposing of abandoned buildings
- ▶ Emphasize vibrancy, beauty, and good design
- ▶ Encourage mixed-use buildings
- ▶ Mixed feedback on priority of Downtown:
  - » Some input that Downtown should be top priority
  - » Some concerns about too much focus on Downtown (also need change in north and south)
- ▶ Limit impacts to heritage areas and buildings
- ▶ Increase affordable housing options Downtown

### Safety & Security

- ▶ Increase social services and support
- ▶ Focus on improving safety and security of Downtown for changes to be successful

### Transportation

- ▶ Prioritize walkability and active transportation
- ▶ Some concerns about losing parking and vehicle access as Downtown densifies

### Character & Amenities

- ▶ More markets, festivals, music, cultural facilities, tourism activities, etc., both Downtown and throughout the city
- ▶ Increase basic amenities (e.g., clean public washrooms)
- ▶ Add greenspace
- ▶ Improve shoreline access
- ▶ Add destinations (e.g., indoor sports facility, science centre, aquarium, quay, market)
- ▶ Increase arts and culture spaces and studios



*Support massive densification and redevelopment of the downtown. It cannot be two-storey retail only. Downtown needs offices, 4+ story buildings with mixed use, limited historic/heritage limitations, better transit to bring more people to live and work downtown. Downtown suffers as a ghost town on Sundays and after work hours because no one lives there...*





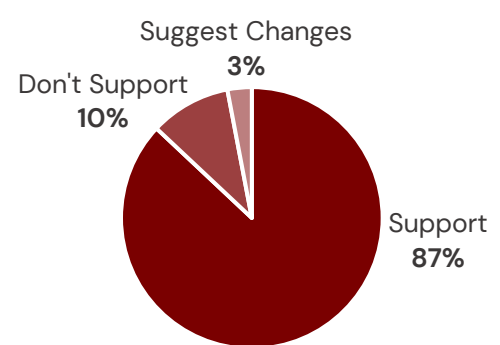
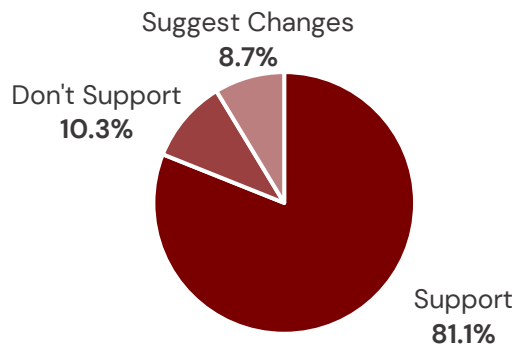
**Key Direction**

**Community Survey**

**Statistical Survey**

**Create Secondary Urban Centres around Existing Activity Hubs**

Build on existing hubs of activity – Woodgrove, Nanaimo North, Country Club, Hospital, University, and South Gate – to create **Secondary Urban Centres** with jobs, services, and mobility options – each with a unique character



**COMMENT THEMES**

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

**Secondary Urban Centres Land Use Designation**

- ▶ Mixed feedback:
  - » Some support for focusing on Downtown or enlarging Downtown Centre
  - » Some support for elevating select Secondary Centres to also be Primary Centres
  - » Some suggestions for additional Secondary Centres (e.g., at all existing commercial centers, Central Bowen Road)
  - » Some suggestions for eliminating select Secondary Centres (e.g., Hospital Centre)
- ▶ Emphasize the unique character for each Centre
- ▶ Increase amenities in Secondary Centres including: greenspaces, tree canopy, plazas, cafes, etc.
- ▶ Encourage each Centre to become self-sustaining (i.e., a person can meet daily needs in one area)
- ▶ Consider limiting building height to 6 storeys

**Transportation**

- ▶ Prioritize walkability / reduce focus on cars
- ▶ Prioritize active transportation linkages and transit routes between each Centre
- ▶ Provide a high quality transit hub in each Centre
- ▶ Undertake comprehensive and multi-modal transportation planning for each Centre



*I agree, but downtown should be the top priority for this type of growth with the outside areas growing off of its growth. The development of services outside of the downtown, South Gate as an example, should be planned with the promotion of mixed use buildings as well. South Gate shopping and area would greatly benefit if this area was designed as residential buildings with all this shopping being offered on the ground floor. The creation of little towns within the City.*





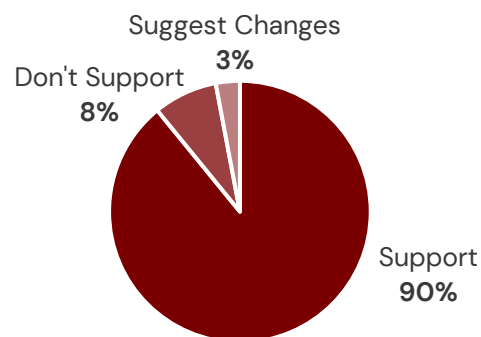
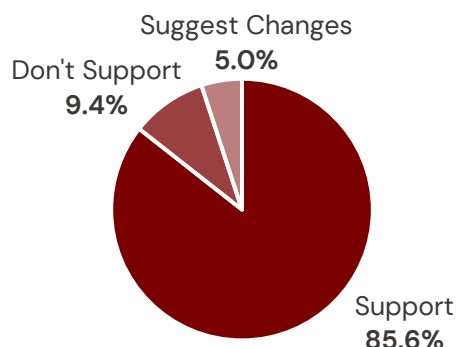
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Support Smaller Neighbourhood Centres with Local Services

Support smaller **Neighbourhood Centres** in key locations (see Map 1) focused on providing local services to nearby neighbourhoods



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Neighbourhood Centres Land Use Designation

- ▶ Increase the number of Neighbourhood Centres (e.g., Hammond Bay)
- ▶ Add enough density to support transit
- ▶ Design Neighbourhood Centres to be very accessible for all ages and abilities
- ▶ Encourage local-scale businesses
- ▶ Manage parking to have less impact (e.g., underground, behind, on-street)
- ▶ Include community amenities (e.g., community gardens) and green space in all Centres
- ▶ Increase sustainable living options in these areas

### Transportation

- ▶ Create a walkability / active transportation plan for all neighbourhoods
- ▶ Increase neighbourhood walkability and access to Neighbourhood Centres
- ▶ Introduce walkable short-cuts to make walking more desirable



*Need more of these! Nanaimo needs way more neighbourhood centres that local residents can walk to and meet. Although born and raised in Nanaimo, I've lived in a few large cities (London, Paris) and they felt like they had a collection of villages inside a big city.*





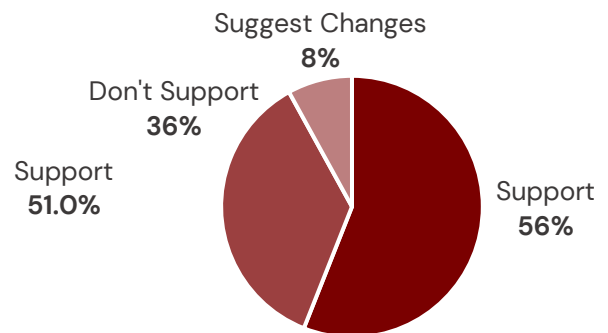
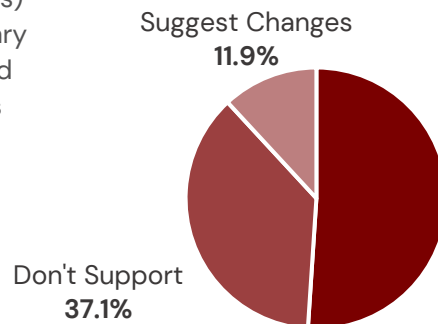
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Support Large-Format Retail that is Designed to be Pedestrian-Friendly and Mixed-use

Support **large-format retail** (i.e., big box stores) in Primary and Secondary Urban Centres, provided that the design enables the walk, roll, cycle, and transit-oriented vision for these areas and is integrated with mixed-use development (i.e., stores integrated with residential, office, other commercial)



**NOTE:** The above question received a higher degree of mixed feedback from participants. An analysis of qualitative feedback from both surveys is summarized on the next page to further understand key themes behind why people indicated they “Don’t Support” or “Suggest Changes” related to this direction.



*I know we likely can't avoid some further 'new' big box stores and I'd like those to be the last option for us as a City moving into the future. I think a more diversified (consisting of smaller stores), integrated commercial approach makes for better City living!*



*Would prefer to see more focus in small local businesses, not big box stores, especially when it comes to the downtown core. If there are going to be any additions to the current big box stores, it needs to be in Secondary Urban Centres, and equally split between north end and south end. The south end does not have equitable access to amenities at this time.*







## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

Theme	# References	% Respondents
<b>Do Not Support Large-Format / Big Box Development</b>	<b>55</b>	
Prefer to support local / small-scale business development	29	28%
Generally do not wish for more big box stores	26	25%
<b>Support Some Large-Format / Big Box Stores with Limitations</b>	<b>58</b>	
Not in Downtown / Primary Urban Centre	17	17%
Where they are not competing with / impacting local businesses	14	14%
Where parking is integrated (i.e., no large areas of surface parking) and walking / cycling access is prioritized	11	11%
Where there is a high degree of design quality / sustainability	5	5%
Focused only in existing areas / footprints	5	5%
Where they have limited size / mixed-use urban form	3	3%
Where scale / location is suitable (e.g., outskirts, highway access)	3	3%
<b>Encourage More Large-Format / Big Box Stores</b>	<b>7</b>	
No other options / need these formats	3	3%
Consider additional large-format stores in South Nanaimo	2	2%
Encourage outlet mall	2	2%
<b>Other Comments</b>	<b>8</b>	
Online shopping is reducing the need for these formats	3	3%
Other comment	5	5%
Total References	128	
Total Responses	102	

The total number of references is not equal to the total number of responses because responses are coded into more than one category.

Total % is not equal to 100 due to multi coding (each response was coded into between 1 and 4 categories).



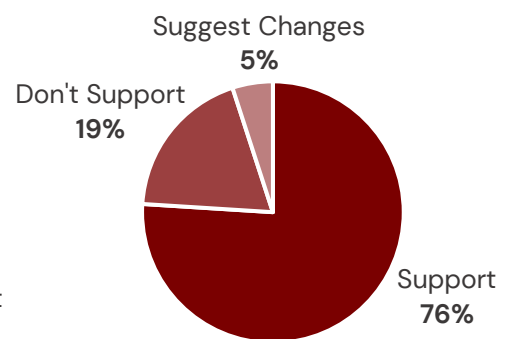
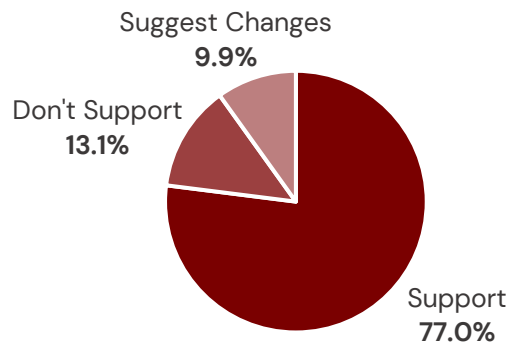
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

## Avoid Large Areas of Surface Parking &amp; Drive-Thrus

Avoid new large areas of surface parking and drive-thrus in Primary and Secondary Urban Centres, with strong preference for under-building or underground parking and continue evolving away from auto-oriented uses and towards more pedestrian-friendly development forms



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

## Parking

- ▶ Mixed feedback on avoiding large areas of surface parking:
  - » Some support for limiting space allocated to surface parking and/or underground parking
  - » Some concerns about limiting surface parking due to equity, tourism, or business needs
- ▶ Mixed feedback on underground parking:
  - » Some support for more underground parking
  - » Some concerns about underground parking challenges (safety, affordability) and considerations for how these could be mitigated
  - » Some suggestions to also consider structured or tiered parking



*Suggest underground parking. We will still have automobiles for the foreseeable future, particularly for the senior population. This will, however, save surfaces for green space. etc.*



## Mobility Options

- ▶ Mixed feedback on evolving away from auto-oriented uses:
  - » Some support for investing in the walk / roll / transit network
  - » Some emphasis for moving away from car culture faster
  - » Some concerns that vehicle mobility will still be required (walk / roll / transit doesn't work for everyone)
- ▶ Accelerate transition towards EVs

## Drive-Thrus

- ▶ Mixed feedback on drive-thrus:
  - » Some support to limit new drive-thrus in the city
  - » Some preference to continue to have drive-thru option



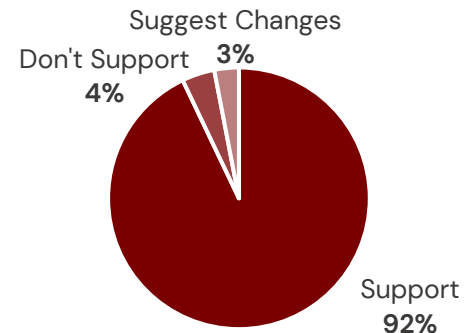
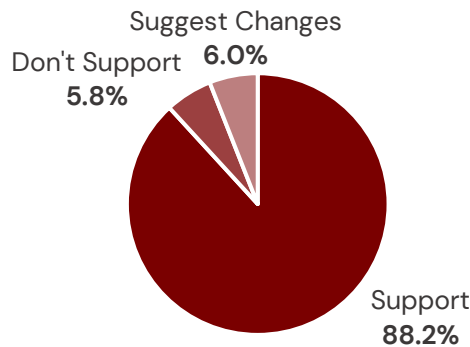
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Plan Mobility Routes between Centres as Corridors

Plan key **mobility routes and connections** between Centres as Corridors – beautiful routes designed for movement, living, and commerce – routes that are both a network that connects our city and destinations in themselves



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

#### Corridor Land Use Designation

- ▶ Consider relationships between buildings and busy streets (how to make these spaces livable)
- ▶ Manage commercial in these areas so it's not sprawling / in-efficient / strip development
- ▶ Comments about specific locations:
  - » Concerns about Corridor on Stewart Avenue
  - » Consider more Corridor on Hammond Bay Road
  - » Increase attractiveness of Nicol Street corridor

#### Transportation

- ▶ Ensure mobility routes remain vehicle-friendly and support efficient access between Centres
- ▶ Enhance transit to be user-friendly and desirable
- ▶ Mixed feedback on cycling routes:
  - » Some would like to see more
  - » Some feel investment should be focused elsewhere
- ▶ Continue developing the E&N Trail

#### Character

- ▶ Mixed feedback on beautification:
  - » Some feel beautification of Corridor routes is very important and needs to be emphasized
  - » Some prefer to focus on movement and efficiency in these areas (focusing beautification on Centres)
- ▶ Prioritize maintaining mature trees and existing green spaces



*Emphasis on connecting these areas. Get away from a mish-mash of strip malls.*



*I agree on most of this but the mobility routes must be vehicle friendly with sufficient parking. There is a movement towards EV but the transition could take decades and there must be support for all movements within the routes.*







## Key Direction

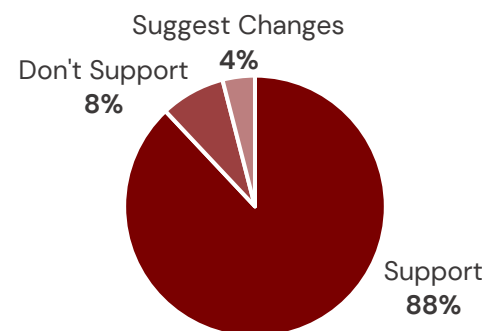
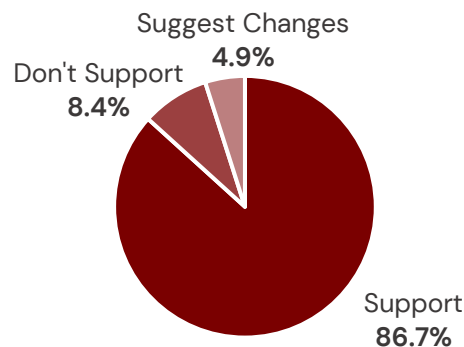
## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Define Mixed-use & Residential Corridors in the City

Separate Corridors into two types (see the Land Use Plan online for locations):

- » **Mixed-use Corridors**  
(mix of commercial & residential) in strategic locations to support a critical mass of commercial activity
- » **Residential Corridors**  
(focused primarily on living) linking between Mixed-Use Corridors to avoid continuous commercial strip development



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Corridor Land Use Designation

- ▶ Consider more mixed-use development to support walkability
- ▶ Ensure there is commercial within a short walk for those in residential areas
- ▶ Concerns about parts of the city becoming too busy
- ▶ Ensure Corridors are sympathetic to adjacent existing residential areas

### Transportation

- ▶ Manage commercial traffic impacts on residential uses
- ▶ Ensure walkability

### Character

- ▶ Protect green spaces and environmental values



*As long as there can be potential to have SOME commercial activity in a residential corridor. Nothing wrong with having a neighborhood cafe or baker in the area. Makes it more walkable!*



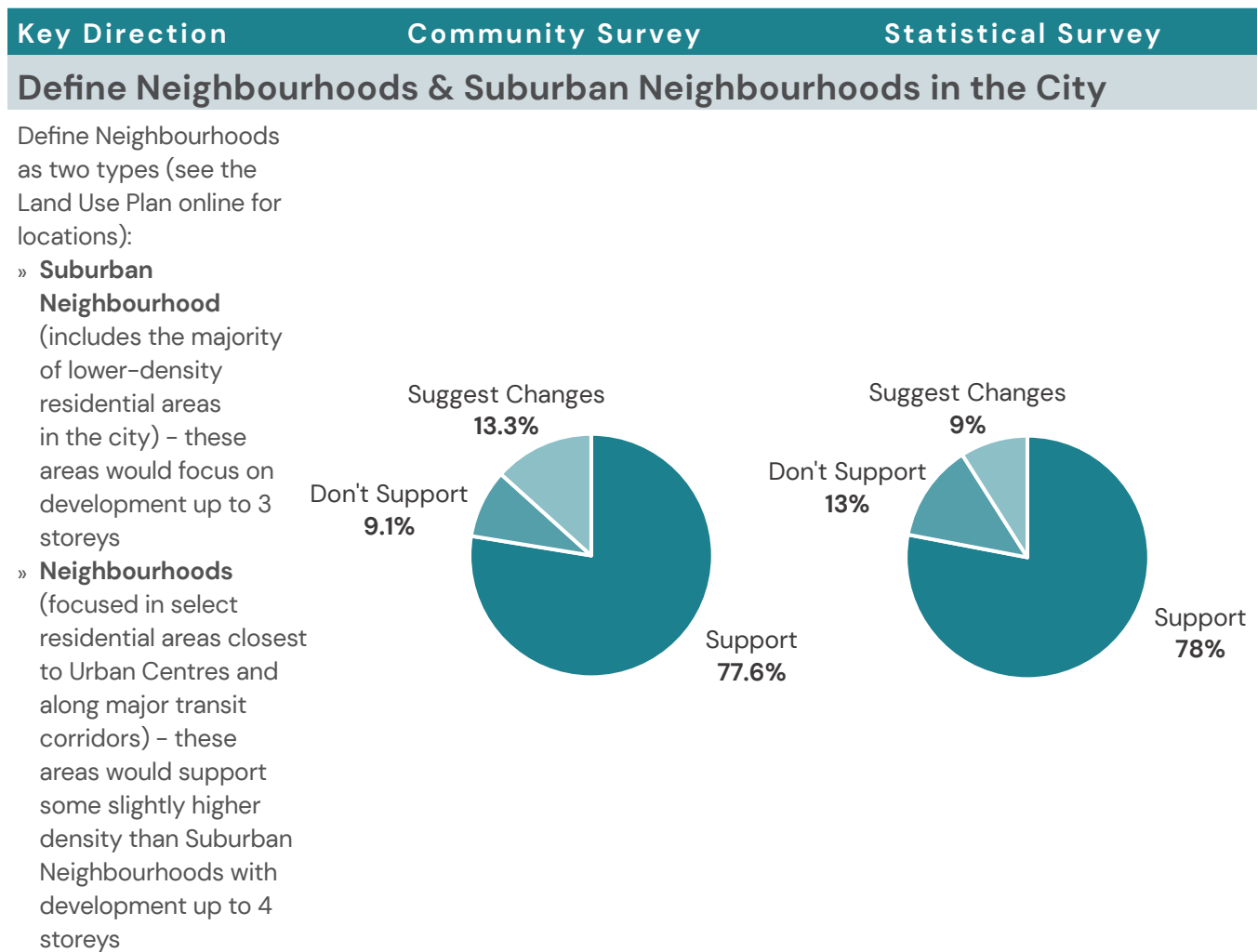


## 3.1.2 LIVABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

The draft City Plan recognizes that neighbourhoods will remain lower density with fewer services than our Centres. The plan encourages complete neighbourhoods by supporting small-scale local services and hubs for community activity at or near school sites that contribute to livability and walkability, and help residents meet their daily needs closer to home.

### SURVEY RESULTS

Participants were asked about their level of support for **8 key directions related to Livable Neighbourhoods**.





## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Neighbourhood & Suburban Neighbourhood Land Use Designation

- ▶ Mixed feedback on amount of Suburban Neighbourhood and Neighbourhood:
  - » Some preference to have more Neighbourhood designation to reduce sprawl, increase walkability, increase affordability (less Suburban Neighbourhood)
  - » Some preference for only suburban or low-density Neighbourhoods
- ▶ Mixed feedback about density / building heights:
  - » Many comments suggesting density / heights should be higher (e.g., up to six storeys or more in Neighbourhoods or closer to services and up to four storeys in Suburban Neighbourhoods to improve affordability, walkability, climate, etc.)
  - » Some feedback suggesting density / heights should be lower (e.g., two storeys in Suburban Neighbourhood, three storeys in Neighbourhood)
- ▶ Tie neighbourhood density to level of car-dependency
- ▶ Concerns about impacts to existing residents
- ▶ Protect heritage areas and buildings
- ▶ Focus on renewal / revitalization of existing built-up areas over new outward growth
- ▶ Increase variety in forms of housing (e.g., suites, coach houses, mobile homes, tiny homes, etc.)

*I don't know that we need to delineate the types so specifically. There is value in a mix of housing style no matter the location.*

*Don't allow 3 or 4 story buildings to shadow peoples' gardens.*

### Infrastructure

- ▶ Consider / manage traffic increases
- ▶ Support density where transit and multi-mobility can be achieved
- ▶ Update servicing to support growth

### Character

- ▶ Retain large trees and green spaces
- ▶ Prioritize attractive building design and impact mitigation on neighbouring residences
- ▶ Preserve waterfront view corridors
- ▶ Prioritize environmental protection, space for people, space to grow food

### Affordability

- ▶ Consider reducing restrictions so market can provide more options

*Distinguish between "car dependent neighbourhoods" and "neighbourhoods." It is very important to keep car dependent neighbourhoods as low a density as possible. This means less people with cars in car dependent neighbourhoods. If you want to increase the density of a car dependent neighbourhood, then it must be transformed into a "complete" neighbourhood. A green, complete, compact community needs to provide freedom from car dependency.*





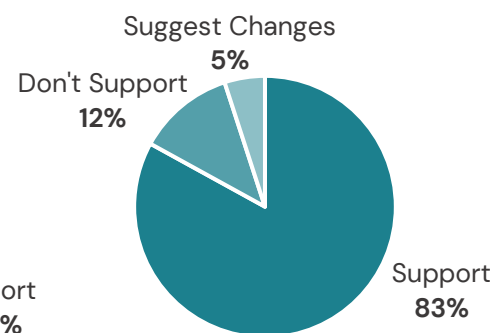
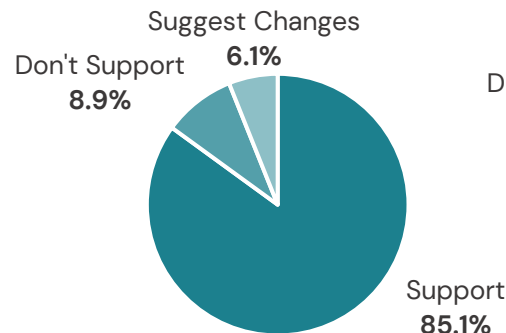
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Provide Gentle Transitions in Building Forms

Provide **gentle transitions in building forms** (i.e., stepped down) between higher-density areas like Centres and Corridors and lower-density neighbourhoods



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Transitions in Heights / Building Forms

- ▶ Concerns about challenges in implementation
- ▶ Concerns about limiting opportunities to densify / add needed housing stock
- ▶ Desire for more detail about what transitions would entail (e.g., shading, topography, views, demand, etc.)
- ▶ Possibly less important than other considerations such as landscaping or building design



*Planning for transitions in building forms needs to reflect flexibility to consider topography, existing infrastructure, etc.*





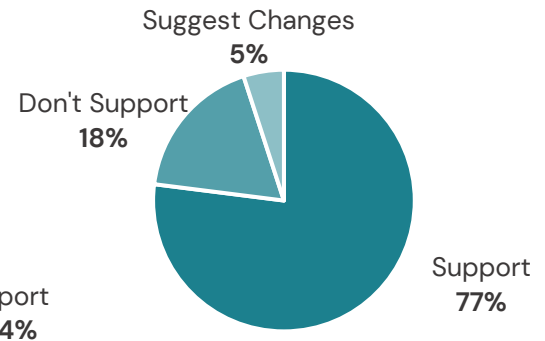
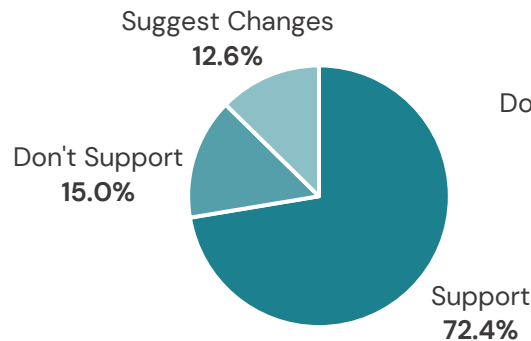
**Key Direction**

**Community Survey**

**Statistical Survey**

**Support Low to Modest Infill in Neighbourhoods**

Support **low to modest infill** (a project here and there) in neighbourhoods that considers surrounding context while increasing housing diversity



**NOTE:** The above question received a higher degree of mixed feedback from participants. An analysis of qualitative feedback from both surveys is summarized on the next page to further understand key themes behind why people indicated they “Don’t Support” or “Suggest Changes” related to this direction.



*The relevancy here is how many more or less people are made car dependent by any sort of development. If a neighbourhood is complete and compact infill can be encouraged. If the neighbourhood is incomplete and spread out than higher density residential needs to be discouraged.*



*More infill! Encourage carriage homes and rental suites on existing properties. Encourage homeowners to make space.*



*Modest to less modest. I think there should be more bold densification to curb sprawl and further encroachment on existing natural areas.*



*I like this idea. I would not like to see a bank of tall buildings down the hill from me. I can support thoughtful spacing to increase density while maintaining neighborhood character.*





## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

Theme	# References	% Respondents
<b>Support Modest Infill &amp; Increased Density</b>	<b>66</b>	
Support for thoughtful low to modest infill to gradually add density in existing neighbourhoods	32	41%
Generally support more density to live sustainably, limit sprawl, and address affordable housing	19	20%
Support for vibrant, compact communities that include active transportation, amenities, jobs, parks, and housing	9	9%
Support modest infill only	6	6%
<b>Desire for More Infill &amp; Density</b>	<b>15</b>	
Support modest to high density especially in urban areas	15	15%
<b>Concerns about Infill &amp; Increased Density</b>	<b>15</b>	
Concerns about impacts from adding density in existing neighbourhoods (e.g., views, building form, shade, cars, parking, greenspace)	15	15%
<b>Considerations for Planning Infill</b>	<b>38</b>	
Protect natural areas, green space, trees, sensitive environments, ALR land, and consider carbon impacts	13	13%
Ensure infill respects neighbourhood form and character and that development guidelines are in place and followed	11	11%
Clarify what low to modest infill means and implications to existing neighbourhoods (e.g., schools, greenspace, design character)	10	10%
Consult existing neighbourhoods before major changes	4	4%
<b>Other Comments</b>	<b>20</b>	
Encourage diverse housing such as carriage homes, tiny homes, mobile homes, ground-level homes for families and seniors, co-ops	13	13%
Support incentives such as tax breaks for owners, developer incentives, pre-zoning, and fast-track approvals	7	7%
Total References	154	
Total Responses	97	

The total number of references is not equal to the total number of responses because responses are coded into more than one category.

Total % is not equal to 100 due to multi coding (each response was coded into between 1 and 4 categories).





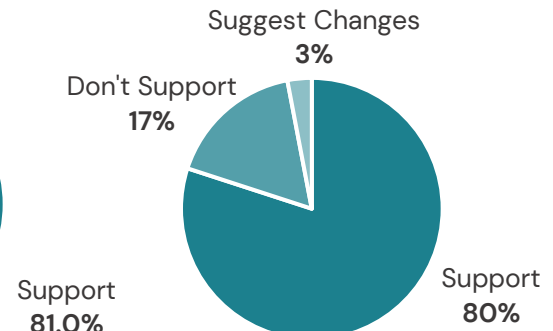
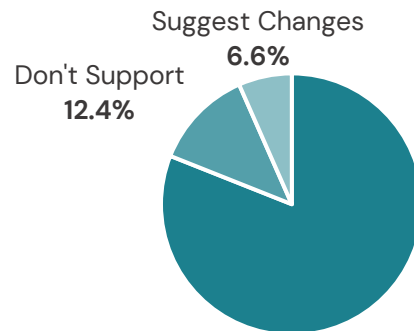
**Key Direction**

**Community Survey**

**Statistical Survey**

**Fill Gaps in Neighbourhood-Scale Services**

Work to **fill gaps in neighbourhood-scale services** by encouraging small-scale commercial and community services to locate in neighbourhoods at or near school sites (in partnership with the School District)



**COMMENT THEMES**

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

**Types of Activities Supported**

- ▶ Support for community service uses (e.g., daycares, seniors housing, recreation facilities)
- ▶ Some concerns about commercial uses or certain commercial or service uses (e.g., 24-hr businesses, pot/liquor stores, fast food stores, social housing)
- ▶ Suggestions to better define what small-scale commercial services include / ensure they are child-friendly

**Challenges**

- ▶ Concerns about commercial businesses finding success due to limited customer base, difficulty competing with big box
- ▶ Concerns about traffic increasing / requirement for a strategic approach needed to manage congestion
- ▶ Concerns about security challenges
- ▶ Concerns about drawing commercial away from other areas (e.g., Centres)

**Other Suggestions**

- ▶ Consider more Neighbourhood Centres / Villages as an alternative
- ▶ Be clear about design character
- ▶ Focus on select sites (e.g., high schools, more distant locations)
- ▶ Consider consolidation of ferries (e.g., Horseshoe Bay Ferry shifted to Duke Point) to increase neighbourhood services in that area



*I am unsure what is meant by small-scale commercial services. I do not agree with placing commercial services near schools that provide access to liquor, drugs, marijuana, or slot machines, etc.*





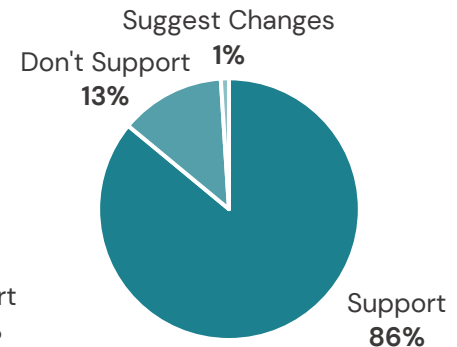
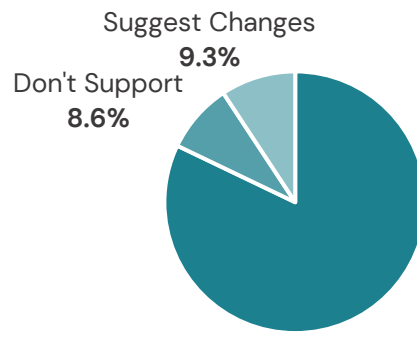
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Create a Land Use Designation for the Old City Quarter

Identify the **Old City Neighbourhood** as a separate land use designation with specific policies to retain the heritage values and character of this area



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Definition of Heritage

- ▶ Not all existing buildings are worthy
- ▶ Concerns about colonialism related to architectural heritage

### Opportunities

- ▶ Support / encourage thoughtful infill and a mix of housing that is in keeping with the established character
- ▶ Encourage / incentivize renewal of vacant / deteriorating properties
- ▶ Encourage arts to thrive in the area

### Challenges

- ▶ Concerns about financial burdens and seismic challenges of updating heritage properties
- ▶ Concerns that too much restriction will limit desirable development opportunities / density near downtown
- ▶ Concerns about impacts to housing affordability
- ▶ Concerns about crime and safety in the area

### Other Suggestions

- ▶ Extend heritage / character protection beyond the Old City Quarter (e.g., Newcastle, Five Acre Farm, Harewood)
- ▶ Require minimum aesthetic standards / adhere to design guidelines



*Agree overall, but infill to ensure density in this area is a crucial component. While the neighbourhood character is integral to the appeal of the area, we have to be realistic that we need housing and it's best for the environment and for a vibrant community to pursue density. For example, if an old house is so run down it needs to be demolished, it would be more future-thinking to ensure a multi-family dwelling like a townhouse go in its place vs a poorly designed single-family house with poor exterior visual design / aesthetics.*





# LIVABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

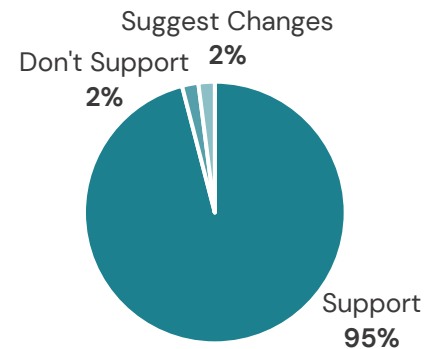
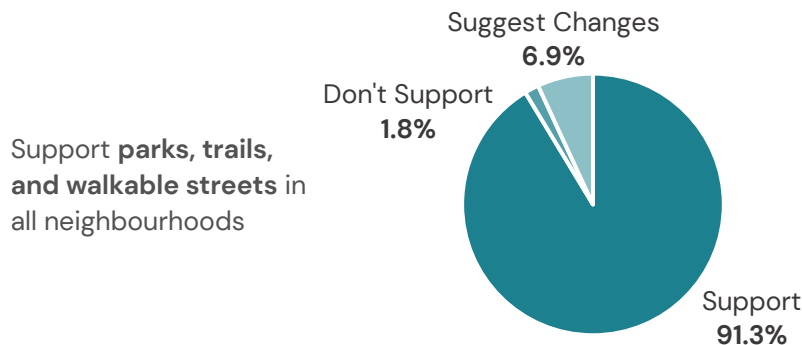


## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Support Parks, Trails, and Walkable Streets in all Neighbourhoods



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Key Improvements / Amenities

- ▶ Continue upgrades to support accessibility for all
- ▶ Sidewalks and cycle lanes should be well connected
- ▶ Address crime and safety impacts
- ▶ Add playgrounds close to residential areas
- ▶ Add more trees in all areas, including increasing boulevards and street trees
- ▶ Add washrooms
- ▶ Increase dog off-leash areas
- ▶ Preserve habitat and wildlife areas (i.e., restrict human activity in some locations)
- ▶ Integrate green infrastructure (green roofs, permeable surfaces, etc.)

### Other Suggestions

- ▶ Design streets to be public spaces for all (not only focused on cars) / increase efforts to slow traffic and make streets comfortable for all users
- ▶ Add protected parkland while the opportunity exists
- ▶ Maintain and upgrade existing parks and trails
- ▶ Seek innovative ways to help neighbourhoods care for their areas (e.g., grant-funded neighbourhood clean-ups)



*I VERY strongly support this initiative – good for the planet and our health and well being. We need Nanaimo to be a “biophilic city” where people are able to experience and connect with nature every day WITHIN the City – nature should be “part of” our daily life within Nanaimo.*





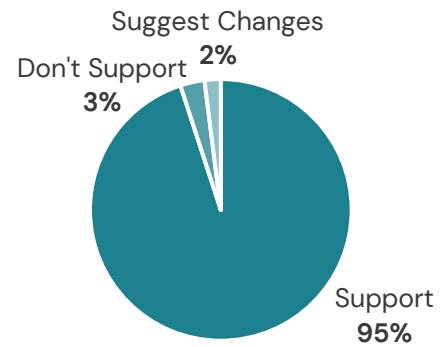
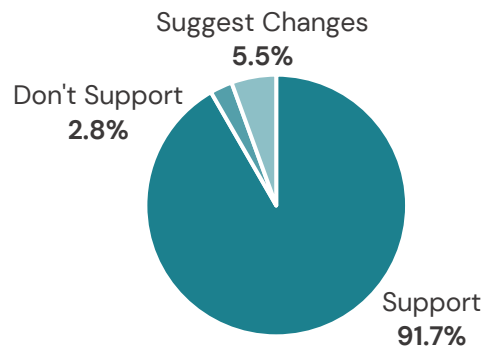
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Secure Spaces for Recreation, Culture, & Wellness Programs throughout the Community

- » Work with partners to secure **spaces for recreation, culture, and wellness programs** distributed in an equitable manner throughout the community, and
- » Work with the School District to **co-locate and develop school and community facilities** to support access for all residents.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Locations / Equity

- ▶ Support for recreational facility growth in different areas (e.g., north end, south end)
- ▶ Link facilities with density and growth (more access to facilities where density is higher)
- ▶ Balance convenience / efficiency of larger, integrated facilities with access to smaller, distributed spaces
- ▶ Enhance transit and multi-modal connectivity to major complexes

### Partnerships

- ▶ Mixed feedback on pursuing partnerships:
  - » Some concerns about over-reliance on partnerships and challenges around agreements
  - » Some encouragement for more partnerships / seeing what's been done in other communities
  - » Some concerns about for-profit partnerships

### Gaps / Additions

- ▶ Increase programs throughout the city
- ▶ Increase online activities for those unable to travel to facilities
- ▶ Suggestions for additional facilities (e.g., arena, pool, courts, off-leash dog areas, etc.)



*For some things I agree with spreading it around but with others I would prefer more focus on few areas, allowing them to be larger and perhaps more diverse and then improving transportation options to get people there.*







**Key Direction**

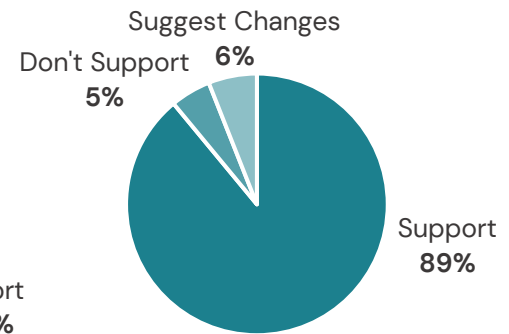
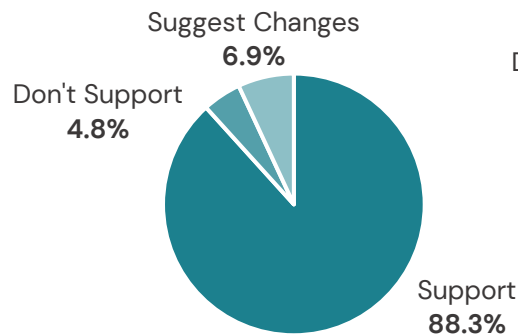
**Community Survey**

**Statistical Survey**

**Develop Area Plans in Areas Where Growth is Expected and Engage Regularly with all Neighbourhoods on Priorities**

Continue to provide opportunities for more detailed community plans as follows:

- » In areas where major changes or significant growth are anticipated (typically Urban Centres), **develop Area Plans** which provide more detailed land use and policy directions, and
- » Provide broad, ongoing opportunities for **engagement with neighbourhoods** to identify their priorities for consideration in **annual budget processes**.



**COMMENT THEMES**

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

**Area Planning**

- Desire to see Area Planning address topics such as supportive services, equity, and regional goals
- Desire for updates to existing older Area Plans (i.e., Downtown Plan)
- Ensure plans can adapt to change
- Concerns about City capacity / Area Planning slowing densification and development
- Concerns Area Plans will focus on corporate interests with not enough community and neighbourhood consideration

**Neighbourhood Engagement**

- Mixed feedback on level of involvement:
  - » Some desire for more consultation and more consideration of input
  - » Some concerns about NIMBYism and blocking of new development, infill, reduced ability to create complete communities, etc.
- Use methods that encourage broad representation across neighbourhoods and the community
- Provide more details on how future engagement will be conducted



## A THRIVING & CREATIVE DOWNTOWN

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### 3.1.3 A THRIVING & CREATIVE DOWNTOWN

Downtown has long been regarded as the heart of our city. The draft City Plan identifies Downtown as our Primary Urban Centre, prioritizing it for growth, investment, and amenities to help it fulfill its role as our distinct cultural, economic, tourism, and mobility hub.



Nanaimo Night Market



## A THRIVING & CREATIVE DOWNTOWN

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



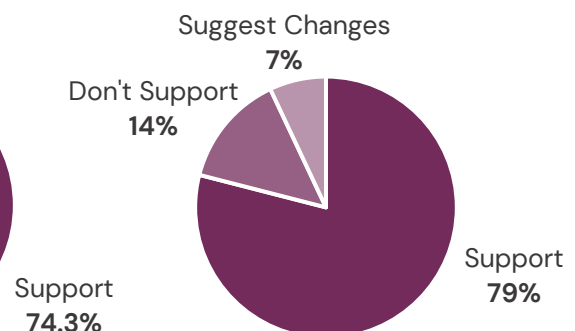
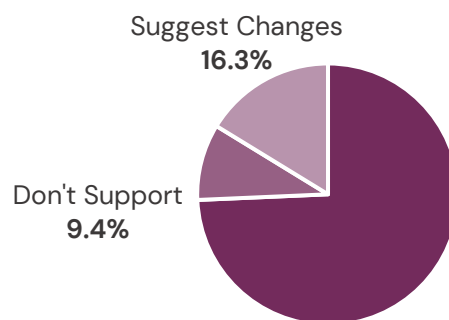
### SURVEY RESULTS

Participants were asked about their level of support for 5 key directions related to A Thriving & Creative Downtown.

Key Direction	Community Survey	Statistical Survey
<b>Encourage a Thriving Downtown through Density, Mobility, and Employment</b>		

Encourage a thriving Downtown as the Primary Urban Centre by:

- » Designating Downtown as the highest density and mix of uses, including high-rise buildings in key locations,
- » Ensuring Downtown has **transit access and walking, rolling, and cycling routes** that support a critical mass of housing, employment, and civic activities that serve a city-wide and regional function, and
- » Encouraging government, businesses, educational services, and other large **employers** to locate in the Downtown.



**NOTE:** The above question received a higher degree of mixed feedback from participants. An analysis of qualitative feedback from both surveys is summarized on the next page to further understand key themes behind why people indicated they “Don’t Support” or “Suggest Changes” related to this direction.





# A THRIVING & CREATIVE DOWNTOWN

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

Theme	# References	% Respondents
<b>Support for Focusing Density, Mobility, and Employment Downtown</b>	<b>89</b>	
Support Downtown as a revitalized centre with arts and culture, entertainment, restaurants, brew pubs, nightlife, and activities for residents and tourism, as well as beautiful streetscapes	26	20%
Encourage government services, businesses, and large employers to locate Downtown (caution with big box commercial)	25	20%
Support downtown as Primary Centre	19	15%
Support active transportation and related amenities Downtown	19	15%
<b>Concerns about Focusing Density, Mobility, and Employment Downtown</b>	<b>81</b>	
Concerns about too many high rises for reasons including view impacts, affordability, empty units, human scale, earthquakes, fire	49	38%
Limit large employers downtown due to concerns about access, traffic, work from home, cost for businesses	24	19%
Concerns about active transportation, parking, transit exchange	8	6%
<b>Concerns about Social Issues and Public Safety</b>	<b>42</b>	
Address social issues and public safety as a priority with social supports, enforcement, and maintenance	42	33%
<b>Other Considerations</b>	<b>34</b>	
Support high density and mixed use in all Urban Centres	18	14%
Maintain unique downtown history, character, and form	12	9%
Other	4	3%
Total References	246	
Total Responses	128	

The total number of references is not equal to the total number of responses because responses are coded into more than one category.

Total % is not equal to 100 due to multi coding (each response was coded into between 1 and 4 categories).





# A THRIVING & CREATIVE DOWNTOWN

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



## Key Direction

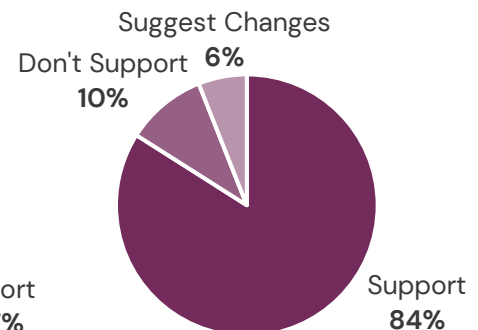
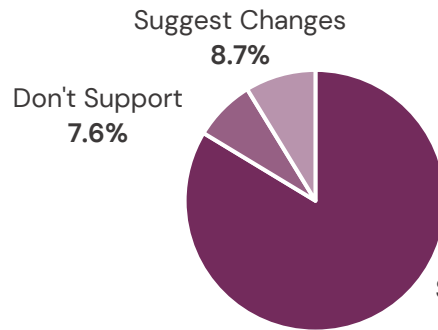
## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Position Downtown as the Cultural Focal Point

Position Downtown as a **cultural focal point** by:

- » Making **arts and culture** visible and accessible,
- » Locating **new cultural facilities** there, and
- » Encouraging property owners to include **live/work spaces and studios** that support arts and culture.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Location

- ▶ Encourage arts and culture in all areas of the city (not only Downtown)
- ▶ Focus Downtown efforts more on retail and residential (less on arts and culture)
- ▶ Invest wisely (e.g., maximize use of existing assets, bring multiple opportunities together in one location)



*I feel arts and culture should be visible and accessible throughout the community. Spread throughout the major identified hubs. Increase the exposure of culture and more people will understand and appreciate its contribution to community.*



### Considerations

- ▶ Broaden our definition of arts and culture (e.g., intangible heritage, decolonization, cultural equity)
- ▶ Ensure maintenance of arts and culture features
- ▶ Consider a range of artistic opportunities (e.g., free graffiti wall, murals, nature celebration, community arts centre, gallery, etc.)
- ▶ Encourage events that bring focus to artists
- ▶ Increase involvement of arts professionals in decision-making
- ▶ Ensure programs, experiences, and facilities are inclusive of all cultures, demographics, and artists
- ▶ Address crime and safety in Downtown
- ▶ Identify ways to make and maintain Downtown spaces affordable for the arts community



# A THRIVING & CREATIVE DOWNTOWN

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

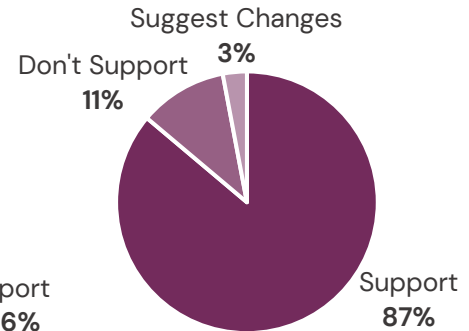
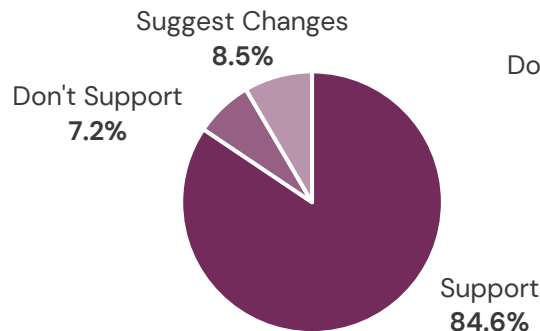
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Recognize and Protect Built Heritage

**Recognize downtown** as the location of the greatest concentration of **built heritage sites** dating back to when the city was established, and continue to protect and celebrate these **built heritage assets**



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Considerations

- ▶ Balance heritage with a need for modernization, increased density, and sustainability
- ▶ Encourage redevelopment and renewal of vacant or derelict properties
- ▶ Focus efforts on key buildings (e.g., those with architectural merit, public buildings)
- ▶ Seek opportunities to celebrate a more diverse range of cultures
- ▶ Consider other parts of the city that have buildings with heritage merit
- ▶ Expand beyond built heritage to emphasize site, natural, and other aspects of heritage
- ▶ Encourage new development to incorporate character features from surrounding area
- ▶ Pursue heritage tourism opportunities (online, tours, etc.)

### Challenges

- ▶ Concerns about built heritage having a bias towards colonial heritage
- ▶ Concerns about costs of restoration and/or maintenance, suggestions for funding options to support



*I would generally agree with this, so long as the heritage sites are of a decent quality and public merit. We shouldn't be saving buildings that are rundown and inefficient simply because they are old.*





# A THRIVING & CREATIVE DOWNTOWN

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



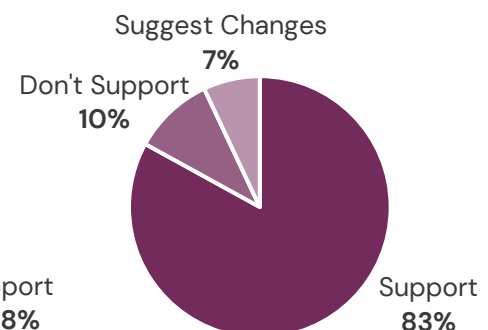
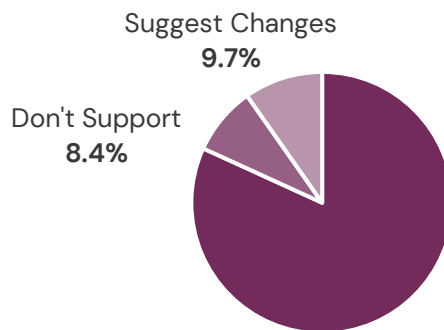
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Make Downtown Part of the Strategy to Strengthen City Identity

- » **Make Downtown a key part of the strategy to strengthen our city identity**, celebrate our assets, and attract people to visit and invest, and
- » **Prioritize the Downtown for community investments** including mobility, infrastructure, communications, public amenity, and other key services.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Challenges

- ▶ Can be hard to envision a thriving Downtown with current social challenges
- ▶ Retain affordability, even as the area improves
- ▶ Concerns about foreign investment

### Location

- ▶ Consider distributing investments to all Urban Centres (not just to Downtown)
- ▶ Improve first impression as people arrive in Downtown

### Ideas for Improvement

- ▶ Invest more in social services
- ▶ Consider additional patrol / security measures
- ▶ Increase mix of residential and commercial services (jobs and living)
- ▶ Focus on attracting residents (not just tourists)
- ▶ Ensure new buildings are attractive and enhance Downtown character
- ▶ Pursue amenities that encourage vibrancy (e.g., full-time market, aquarium, improved public realm, waterfront projects, arts centre)
- ▶ Focus on building a renewable, green Downtown



*There needs to be a clear vision for how we will both move into this vision of Downtown, but first, how we will exit the current state that it is in now.*





# A THRIVING & CREATIVE DOWNTOWN

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

## Key Direction

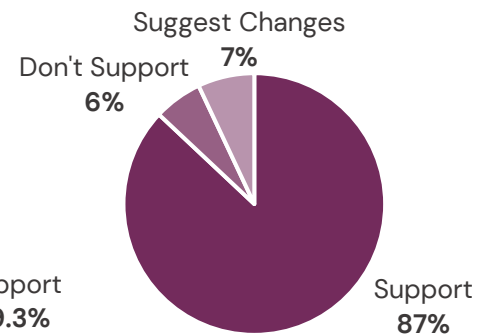
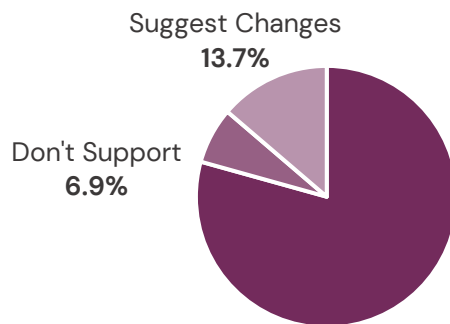
## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Enhance Community Safety and Wellbeing in the Downtown

Enhance community safety and wellbeing in Downtown by:

- » Working with partners to **increase support for residents in need**, and
- » Designing **Downtown public spaces** with social wellbeing, equity, and inclusivity in mind, and work to increase the feeling of **public safety** for all.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Urgency

- ▶ Commit to action now on helping people experiencing homelessness and managing social impacts
- ▶ Add details about how this will be achieved
- ▶ Increase lobbying for funding / senior government support
- ▶ Recognize it may not be possible to wait for others to lead

### Location

- ▶ Avoid concentrating social services in Downtown / spread services throughout the city
- ▶ Work to reduce how visible social disorder impacts the impression of Downtown and its businesses, residents

### Ideas for Improvement

- ▶ Invest more in social services and programs
- ▶ Consider additional patrol / security measures
- ▶ Increase clean-up / appearance efforts / public realm character
- ▶ Encourage more housing and services to increase positive activity
- ▶ Create programs and services that increase opportunity for employment, recovery, community participation
- ▶ Focus on root issues (e.g., breaking the cycle for youth at-risk)

### Challenges

- ▶ Mixed sentiment in community – both extreme frustration and compassion
- ▶ Concerns that many aspects of social services are beyond City control (require participation of other agencies)





### 3.1.4 MOBILITY CHOICE

The draft City Plan promotes improving mobility systems in our Centres and Corridors where many people live and work. We are integrating policies for Complete Streets (to safely accommodate all modes, ages, and abilities), and supporting more frequent and reliable transit. We're seeking to shift people's transportation choices to more sustainable modes that help manage congestion and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



Metral Drive Complete Street

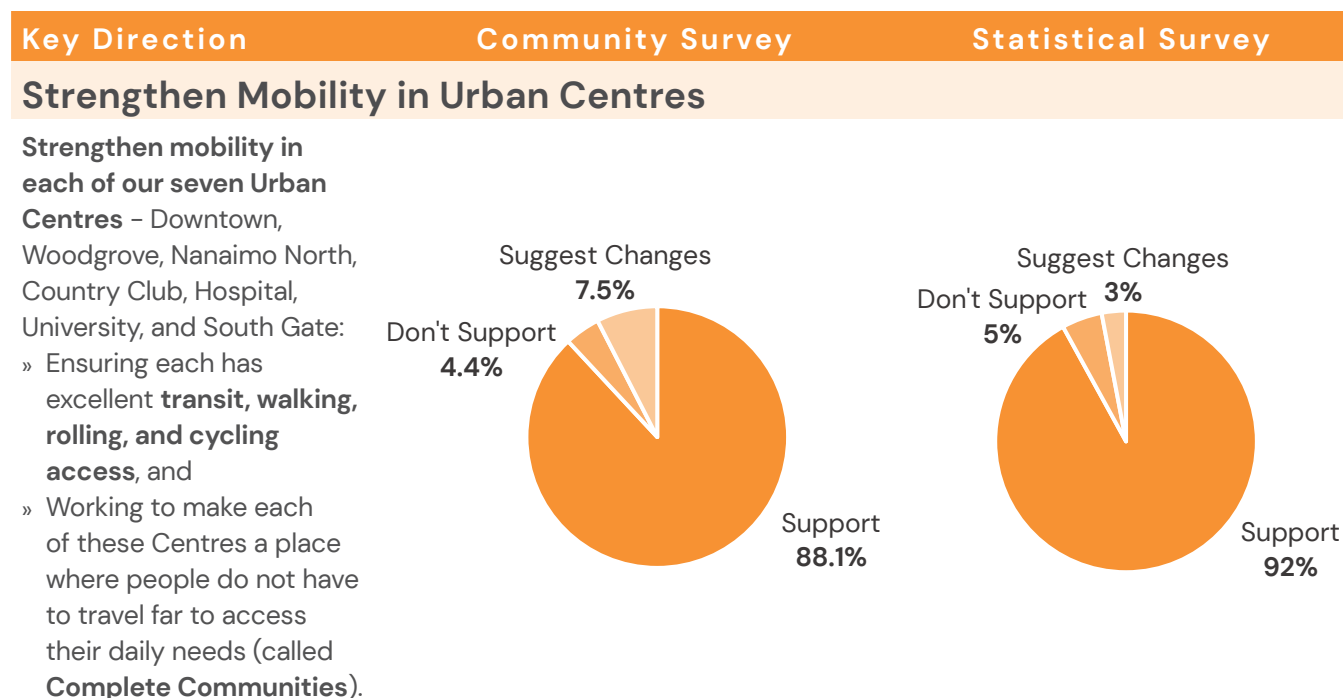


## MOBILITY CHOICE

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### SURVEY RESULTS

Participants were asked about their level of support for **8 key directions related to Mobility Choice**.



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

#### Modes

- ▶ Prioritize pedestrian facilities on all main routes
- ▶ Improve bus service / frequency / accessibility / amenities (e.g., covered shelters) in populated areas like Centres (recognizing lower-density areas cannot have same level of service)
- ▶ Mixed feedback on cycling lanes:
  - » Some concerns about cost / value of bike routes
  - » Some encouragement for more / further connection of bike routes
- ▶ Repurpose E&N (e.g., light rail, trail)
- ▶ Encourage innovations (e.g., on-demand transit, community / shared vehicle and bike fleets)
- ▶ Continue efficient goods movement / vehicle access between Centres

#### Locations & Design

- ▶ Support for increased density and mobility in Centres
- ▶ Prioritize – perhaps not each Centre will achieve all of these elements
- ▶ Make routes in Centres green and attractive to encourage walking and rolling
- ▶ Consider scale – small is often more accessible
- ▶ Also have connections between each Centre and from Neighbourhoods into the Centres

#### Other

- ▶ Prioritize universal accessibility
- ▶ Ensure maintenance of existing roads and trails
- ▶ Prioritize snow removal for pedestrians



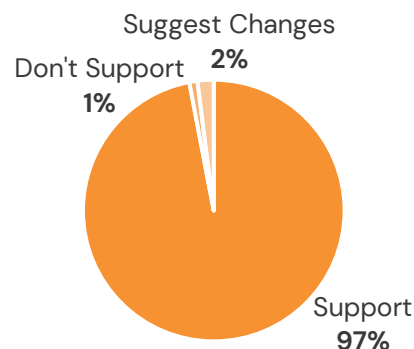
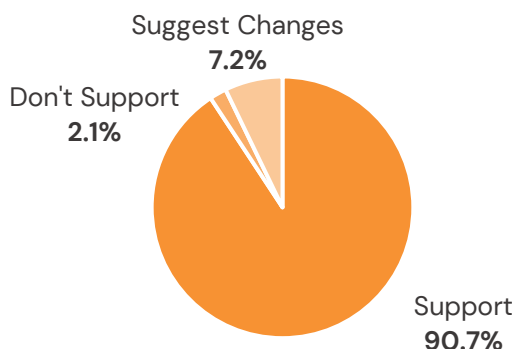
**Key Direction**

**Community Survey**

**Statistical Survey**

**Ensure New Development has Walkable Streets**

Ensure all new development includes a street network that is **walkable** (i.e., is safe and inviting with sidewalks, street trees, etc.)



**COMMENT THEMES**

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

**Locations**

- ▶ Prioritize extension of sidewalks to existing neighbourhoods as well as new development
- ▶ Consider context – design facilities to match intended use (building to full standard may not be warranted in all locations)
- ▶ Consider equity in prioritizing walkability projects

**Safety**

- ▶ Design roads to calm vehicle traffic and reduce speeds
- ▶ Take steps to shift driver behaviours including sense of “road ownership”
- ▶ Ensure pedestrian routes are accessible

**Other**

- ▶ Manage costs – increases to costs could affect development, affordability of homes, taxes
- ▶ Consider design to minimize hard surfacing and support the environment
- ▶ Plant and maintain substantive trees / natural landscapes within streetscapes for community and environmental benefits
- ▶ Ensure routes are attractive and have amenities like benches, lighting, and shade
- ▶ Integrate cycling / rolling alongside walkability



*Additionally, focus on making existing communities walkable, especially with contiguous sidewalks. Relying on new development leads to a piecemeal approach that has stranded, disconnected sidewalks and will not help already developed areas in dire need.*





## MOBILITY CHOICE

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

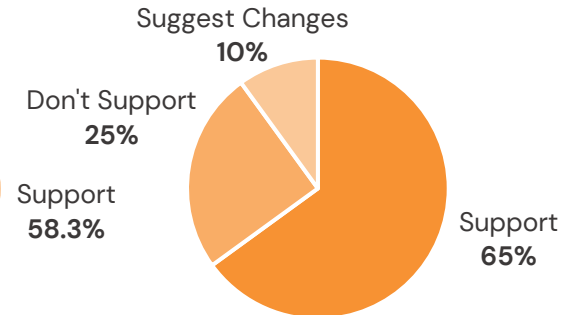
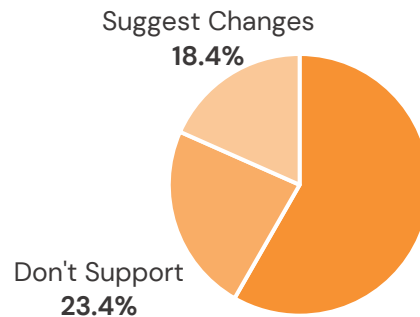
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Manage Parking Supply City-Wide

**Manage parking supply city-wide** and recognize that an abundance of cheap and convenient parking tends to increase vehicle use



**NOTE:** The above question received a higher degree of mixed feedback from participants. An analysis of qualitative feedback from both surveys is summarized on the next page to further understand key themes behind why people indicated they “Don’t Support” or “Suggest Changes” related to this direction.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

Theme	# References	% Respondents
<b>Managing Parking City-wide – Support</b>	<b>57</b>	
Limit vehicles especially in high traffic areas (e.g., Downtown) with regulations or pay parking to fund city initiatives	21	18%
Support gradual reduction of parking to discourage vehicle use through land use planning and investment in active transportation	21	18%
Support a shift towards more multi-modal transportation to make it easier for people to choose a sustainable mode of transportation	15	13%
<b>Managing Parking City-wide – Support with Refinements</b>	<b>64</b>	
Support as long as an affordable, frequent, reliable, and universally accessible transit system provides a better option	36	30%
Support as long as active transportation is safe, universally accessible, and provides a better option	14	12%
Recognize vehicles and active transportation can co-exist and that a mix of transportation choices will help lessen the need for parking	14	12%

(Continued on next page)





## MOBILITY CHOICE

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



Theme	# References	% Respondents
<b>Managing Parking City-wide – Concerns</b>	<b>148</b>	
Recognize that not everyone can rely on active transportation due to mobility, age, distance, young kids, time and scheduling, transit service, weather, safety, shopping, or personal choice to get around	43	36%
Concerns that decreasing parking will not decrease vehicle use and will create challenges for business and residents	38	32%
Concerns that paid parking will discourage business, tourism, and access to services, especially Downtown and near the hospital	24	20%
Vehicles are still widely used and a balance of modes is preferred which includes adequate parking	17	14%
Parking will need to accommodate growing use of EVs	14	12%
Specific parking needs (e.g., Protection Island)	7	6%
Connection between parking and local business, economic growth, and commercial activity (e.g., delivery drivers)	5	4%
<b>Other Considerations</b>	<b>13</b>	
Diversify parking facilities such as underground parking lots, policies for new developments, parking zones, shuttles, Park & Ride	10	18%
Concerns about investing in active transportation infrastructure until the population use can justify investment	3	3%
Total References	282	
Total Responses	120	

The total number of references is not equal to the total number of responses because responses are coded into more than one category.

Total % is not equal to 100 due to multi coding (each response was coded into between 1 and 4 categories).



## MOBILITY CHOICE

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

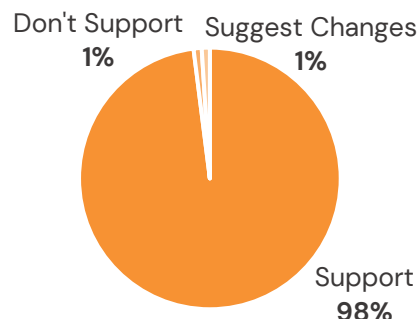
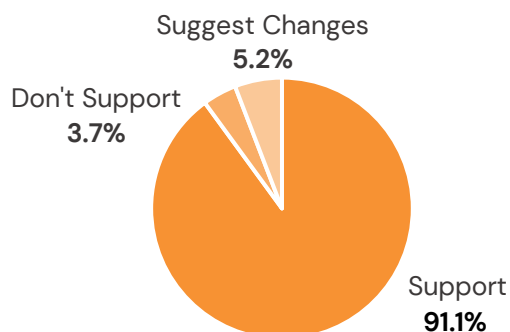
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Efficient Movement of Commercial Goods and Services

Ensure efficient movement of **commercial goods and services**



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

#### Managing Impacts

- ▶ Route heavy trucks to manage impacts to residents (e.g., select routes, certain times) and encourage heavy trucks to use the Parkway wherever possible
- ▶ Consider encouraging smaller delivery vehicles within the city (inter-city vs. intra-city)
- ▶ Consider how increased delivery services from online shopping and ordering will impact environment and communities
- ▶ Shift industry and activities that require heavy truck movements away from core / residential areas (e.g., Departure Bay area)
- ▶ Encourage more local production to reduce reliance on goods movement

#### Safety

- ▶ Ensure safety of other modes is prioritized where truck routes and people routes combine (e.g., safe, separated routes for pedestrians)

#### Other

- ▶ Enhance transit and other modes to help reduce personal vehicle travel on roads (reducing congestion for goods movement)
- ▶ Provide more details about how this will be achieved and what routes will be used



*Ensure that larger commercial vehicles don't use residential streets more than necessary. Also, encourage traffic to use the Parkway rather than the Island Highway which has become too busy, noisy.*





## Key Direction

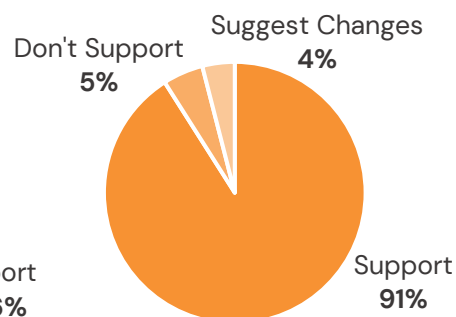
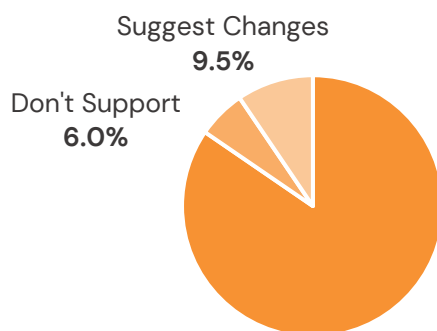
## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Make it Easier to Get Around Without a Car

Work to make it easier to get around without a car in the city and region by:

- » Supporting **rapid and frequent transit** routes that connect our Urban Centres, and
- » **Working with regional partners** to connect different modes like transit, air, and ferries.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Transit

- ▶ Support Rapid Bus between Centres
- ▶ Need transit to be cheaper and as or more convenient for people to shift from cars
- ▶ Encourage late night / all night transit to accommodate range of jobs
- ▶ Consider how health changes (e.g., COVID) will affect transit use
- ▶ Transition to electric buses
- ▶ Match bus capacity to use (i.e., limit empty buses, smaller buses for non-main routes)
- ▶ Improve transit to key destinations (e.g., airport, ferries)
- ▶ Consider subsidized or free transit for key groups (e.g., youth)
- ▶ Integrate Park & Ride options
- ▶ Concern that density will remain insufficient for transit to be successful

### Other

- ▶ Consider light rail / E&N transit line
- ▶ Prioritize a Downtown to Downtown ferry
- ▶ Develop attractive streetscapes (e.g., street trees, separation from cars)
- ▶ Participate in innovative transportation projects (e.g., electric scooter program)
- ▶ Support / encourage more ride share options
- ▶ Recognize that vehicle traffic will continue (e.g., elderly, large packages, families, etc) and accelerate shift to EV / car sharing



*Definitely need more bus routes and with better connections from one bus to the next. As well, we need bus service to run much longer. Even considering having all night bus service. We are getting bigger and for jobs that are late at night, people without a vehicle have to walk late, if they can't afford a cab to work.*





## MOBILITY CHOICE

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### Key Direction

### Community Survey

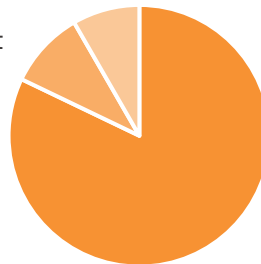
### Statistical Survey

## Invest in Active Mobility Routes

Invest in routes that prioritize walking, rolling, and cycling (called **active mobility routes**) and create streets with amenities, clear signage, trees, and accessibility

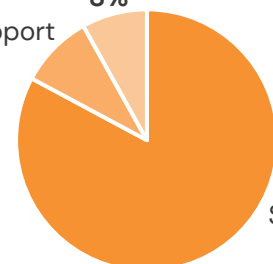
Suggest Changes  
8.3%

Don't Support  
9.6%



Suggest Changes  
8%

Don't Support  
9%



Support  
82%



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Considerations

- ▶ Prioritize protected walking and cycling routes for safety and comfort
- ▶ Prioritize connectivity and making active transportation convenient
- ▶ Follow a balanced approach, recognizing some residents / activities will continue to need vehicle access
- ▶ Focus cycling routes away from busy roads (safety, less noise, and pollution)
- ▶ Include bike racks at key destinations
- ▶ Provide education and enforcement to shift behaviours and reduce the sense of "road ownership" by drivers
- ▶ Increase traffic calming
- ▶ Consider design to minimize hard surfacing and support the environment
- ▶ Design routes to match need and context (not always same standard needed)
- ▶ Consider lighting to support evening use

### Additional Ideas

- ▶ Maintaining traffic flow is also important
- ▶ Distribute improvements equitably throughout the community



*Make sure that cycling corridors include barriers between cyclists and vehicles, and increase education for drivers and cyclists around how to share the road and how to act at intersections.*



*I think you have to face that mobility issues in an aging population and hills are going to create some limits here. Suggest you focus on better transit.*







## MOBILITY CHOICE

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



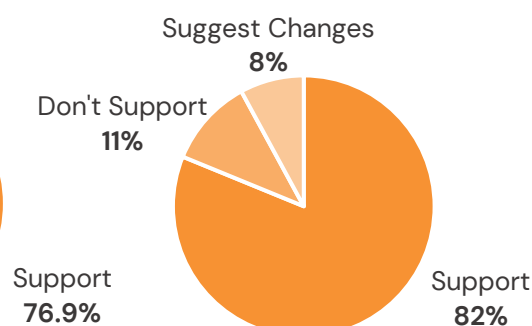
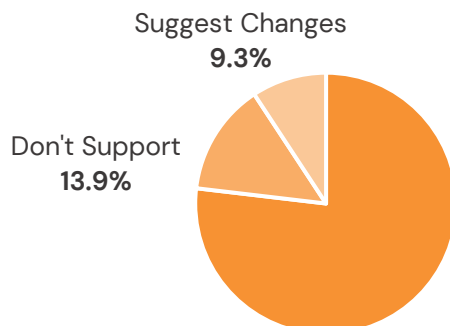
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Follow a Vision Zero Approach

Adopt a collaborative approach to safe mobility that focuses on eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries (called a **Vision Zero** approach), and use **traffic calming** (e.g., traffic circles, speed humps, narrowed lanes, etc.) to improve safety and livability issues



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### General Considerations

- ▶ Design streets for desired speed (not too wide)
- ▶ Combine street design with enforcement for speeding
- ▶ Design streets to prioritize active modes (pedestrians, cyclists)
- ▶ Increase lighting
- ▶ Increase opportunities for pedestrians to safely cross busy roads, including Island Highway
- ▶ Slow speeds furthers in residential streets
- ▶ Concerns about impeding traffic flow if there is too much traffic calming
- ▶ Maintain trees and landscape for clear sightlines at intersections

### Specific Traffic Calming Measures

- ▶ Mixed feedback on narrowed lanes:
  - » Some preference to reduce traffic speed, make streets friendlier for all modes
  - » Some concerns about potential for accidents, traffic impacts, servicing impacts (e.g., snow removal, garbage)
- ▶ Mixed feedback on speed bumps / humps:
  - » Some feel they're inefficient (people accelerate between), impact emergency vehicles, impact drivers (i.e., pain for those with body issues)
  - » Some prefer them as easy to use / understand
- ▶ Mixed feedback on traffic circles:
  - » Some feel they work well, help maintain traffic flow
  - » Some feel there is limited understanding on how to use them, they can decrease safety for pedestrians / cyclists



*Support in general but some traffic calming measures (speed humps and mini circles) in residential areas can create noise issues from drivers revving up engines immediately after clearing the calming feature.*





## MOBILITY CHOICE

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

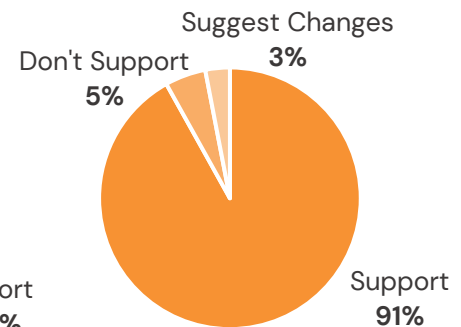
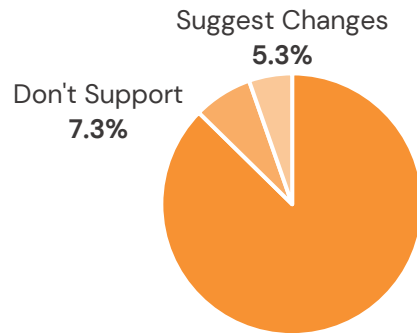
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Develop Complete Streets

Plan, design, and operate streets for safe and convenient travel for users of all ages and abilities, regardless of their mode of transportation (called **Complete Streets**)



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Use a balanced approach – determine priorities based on location, context, and needs
- ▶ Prioritize sidewalks and safe pedestrian movements
- ▶ Slow traffic, especially in Neighbourhoods
- ▶ Design for accessibility
- ▶ Prepare to accommodate an increasing variety of emerging modes
- ▶ Use Metal Drive as a precedent
- ▶ Include bioswales and raingardens as part of the streetscape



*I liked how the bikes shared a sidewalk in Germany with the walkers rather than sharing the road with the cars.*



*E-bikes are on the rise, we need to accommodate for them --> often 55+. Cargo bikes are on the rise too for everyday carrying of goods and services or day to day errands.*





## AFFORDABLE CITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



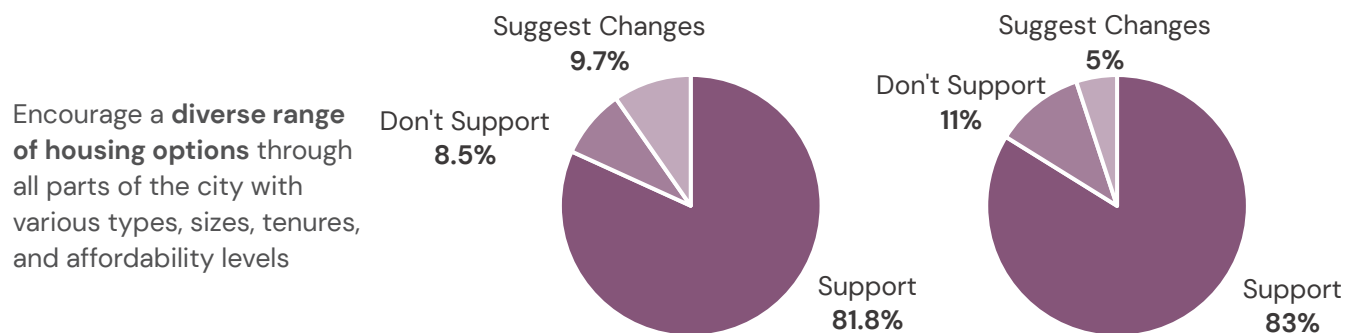
### 3.1.5 AFFORDABLE CITY

The draft City Plan includes directions to support affordable living in our city, including housing, mobility, recreation, and services. Increasing the range of housing types and tenures throughout our city will be essential to helping all people find living that works for them.

#### SURVEY RESULTS

Participants were asked about their level of support for 7 key directions related to an Affordable City.

Key Direction	Community Survey	Statistical Survey
<b>Encourage a Diverse Range of Housing Options</b>		



#### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

##### Locations

- ▶ Mixed feedback on location of affordable housing:
  - » Some encouragement for variety of housing throughout the entire community / in all neighbourhoods
  - » Some suggestions to direct affordable housing more specifically (e.g., Centres, Downtown, near transit and services, not near schools)
- ▶ Recognize that being able to live car-free (i.e., close to transit / services) is part of affordability
- ▶ Co-locate and deliver supportive housing, services, and treatment (not just housing for people struggling with mental health and addictions)
- ▶ Concerns about NIMBYism impacts

##### Other Considerations

- ▶ Increase rentals / require rental-only development
- ▶ Suggestions for different types of housing (e.g., patio homes, rental only, fee simple rowhousing, 3-bedroom apartments, mobiles homes, etc.)
- ▶ Increase support for lower income residents (e.g., rent supplements)
- ▶ Incentivize / fast track affordable housing over other types of housing / limit further development of single-family homes
- ▶ Consider treatment facilities for those unable to live independently
- ▶ Encourage accommodations to allow for pets



## AFFORDABLE CITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

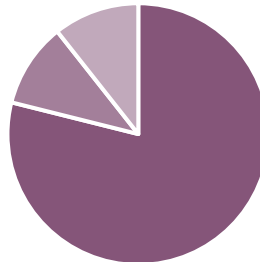
## Work to Combat Rising Unaffordability

Work to **combat rising unaffordability** by:

- » Supporting **innovations** including funding, regulatory tools, zoning, partnerships, and incentives, and
- » **Protecting existing affordable housing** and avoiding losing rental units.

Suggest Changes  
10.6%

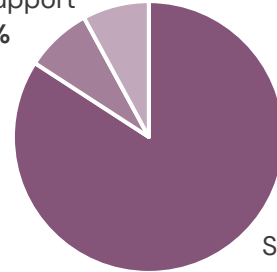
Don't Support  
10.5%



Suggest Changes  
8%

Don't Support  
8%

Support  
85%



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

#### Suggestions for Combating Unaffordability

- Focus on adding rental units in the city
- Fast-track and incentivize affordable housing options and forms
- Develop “pre-set” designs to speed approvals
- Encourage more to be done to protect both tenant and landlord rights / limit “renovictions” and rent hikes between tenants
- Strongly lobby / encourage leadership and investment from the Province, non-profits
- Manage and reduce short-term rentals
- Reduce speculation and use of real estate as tool for financial gain / non-resident buyers
- Reduce bylaw restrictions that prevent innovations or affordable options like tiny homes, lane housing, suites, etc.
- Encourage tenures beyond renting or owning (e.g., rent-to-own, co-op, fractional ownership)

#### Considerations

- Recognize this as an urgent issue and take all available steps
- Concerns about impacts to taxes
- Look to other communities to see what’s been successful
- Update definition of what is considered affordable housing to reflect current and evolving situation



*Provide as many incentives as is reasonably possible to bring in subsidized housing for seniors and those with disabilities.*



*Why just “Protecting” existing affordable housing and not “protect and increase?”*







## AFFORDABLE CITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



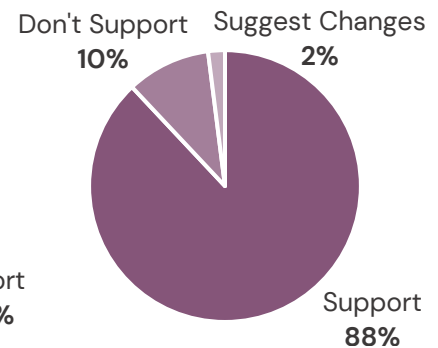
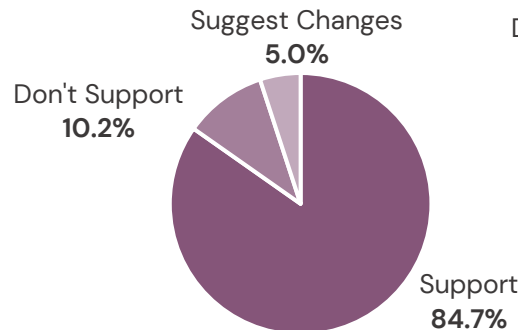
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Collect Contributions from Development to Support Affordable Housing

Continue to collect contributions from development to support affordable housing projects (this is the function of the City's **Housing Legacy Reserve Fund**)



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

#### Urgency

- ▶ Commit more funding to affordable housing
- ▶ Use the HLRF money to create urgently needed housing options
- ▶ Fast-track affordable housing development

#### Information

- ▶ Share more information about the HLRF and how funds are used

#### Development

- ▶ Prioritize Community Amenity Contributions / development contributions for this purpose
- ▶ Work with the development community to encourage inclusion of affordable housing types or units in new developments
- ▶ Match development contributions to the market, recognizing demand in Nanaimo is growing



*If you can make that work it would definitely provide funds to build affordable units. I like that you want to distribute them among all the neighbourhoods. It'll be a hard sell but it's the right move. Stick to your guns and work with neighbourhoods to help them feel safe. And make sure assisted living has enough qualified support staff.*





## AFFORDABLE CITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

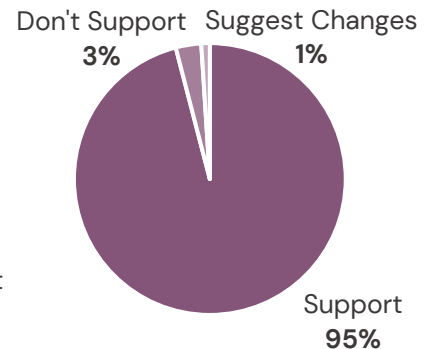
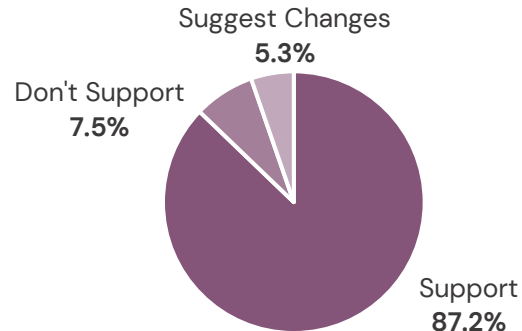
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Encourage Development along Corridors

**Encourage development along Corridors** (Corridors are where living is connected to transit and has easy access to services without the need for car ownership, including affordable housing options and varied forms)



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

#### Corridor Land Use

- ▶ Encourage more Corridor development to link density and transit
- ▶ Consider scale and character transitions between Corridors and adjacent existing Neighbourhoods
- ▶ Connect density to nearby services and efficient transit to support its success (otherwise car reliance will continue)
- ▶ Ensure there is adequate nearby greenspace



*Yes, but housing adapted to the noise and air pollution associated with corridors.*



#### Design Considerations

- ▶ Ensure high-quality design including:
  - » Attractive architecture
  - » Fit with surrounding area
  - » Mitigation of noise / activity / pollution in Corridors (nice for residents to live in)
- ▶ Mixed feedback on parking:
  - » Some desire to reduce / eliminate parking to reduce car dependency
  - » Some desire to ensure sufficient parking to reduce on-street parking / impacts to surrounding area
- ▶ Need concurrent investment in transit / active transportation



*Affordable housing options should be numerous on corridors as people who need affordable housing most likely also need reliable transit...*





## AFFORDABLE CITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

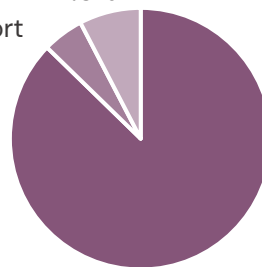
## Increase Affordable Access to Food

Improve our city's  
**affordable access to food**  
by:

- » Working to ensure all people have **access to healthy food** options, and
- » Continuing to support **food infrastructure** on city lands including farmers markets, urban farms, greenhouses, food forests, and community gardens.

Suggest Changes  
7.6%

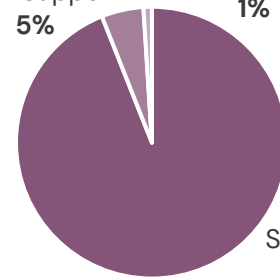
Don't Support  
5.1%



Support  
87.3%

Don't Support  
5%

Suggest Changes  
1%



Support  
94%



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Mixed feedback on city role:
  - » Some suggestions the City should take a greater role in supporting and encouraging food security
  - » Some suggestions this is better delivered by other organizations or private sector
- ▶ Add policy that promotes and enables food growing in all yards and residential areas so all residents have equitable opportunity to grow their own food (regardless of where they live or their type of housing)
- ▶ Support and encourage more local markets (indoor and outdoor)
- ▶ Position access to healthy food as a fundamental right and promote a food system that is just, sovereign, and sustainable
- ▶ Increase public spaces that support food sharing (e.g., community kitchens, school gardens, etc.)
- ▶ Locate opportunities to access food (e.g., markets) close to transit and walkable areas
- ▶ Incentivize and encourage ALR and productive lands to be used for food production
- ▶ Make composting easier (e.g., larger bins for garden waste)
- ▶ Plant edible foods in parks
- ▶ Encourage and support food recovery and redistribution to reduce food waste and increase access to food who need it



*Ensuring new neighbourhoods and developments include 'right to grow' provisions and areas that allow all residents equitable ability to grow their own food.*





## AFFORDABLE CITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### Key Direction

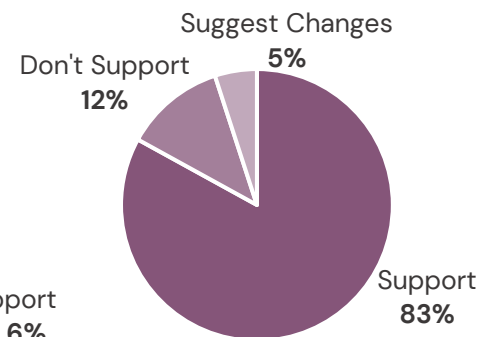
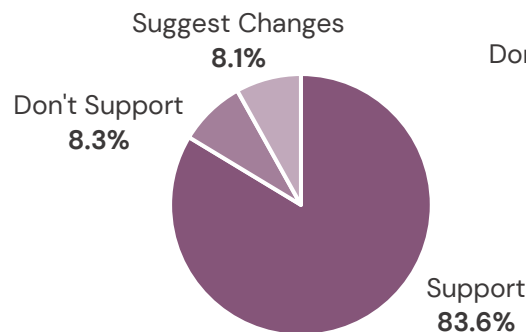
### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Support Efficient City Services

Work to make our **City services** (e.g., water, sewer, roads) better by:

- » Recognizing that the ongoing costs to extend services to low-density development can be twice the cost of servicing compact development, affecting **taxes**, and
- » Making land use and planning decisions that consider the long-term costs of City services and **encouraging compact development** to keep servicing costs lower.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Servicing Costs

- ▶ Mixed feedback on density:
  - » Some support for more density to support efficient servicing
  - » Some concerns about too much density affecting quality of life / scale of city
- ▶ Mixed feedback on taxes:
  - » Some suggestions to increase taxes, notably around user-pay models (e.g., low-density pays more as it requires more infrastructure)
  - » Some concerns potential rising taxes / costs
- ▶ Continue to update development cost charges to reflect actual cost of infrastructure

### Servicing Considerations

- ▶ Require trees, absorbent landscapes, natural rainwater management, water conservation, etc. as part of servicing considerations
- ▶ Prepare for climate change impacts
- ▶ Increase natural solutions for rainwater capture and conveyance (less piped systems)
- ▶ Increase education about water use, reuse, and conservation
- ▶ Utilize other forms of energy (solar, wind, etc.)



*Generally support but would add language about our reliance on eco-assets to convey stormwater and set a goal to restoring natural water balance in the City.*







## AFFORDABLE CITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



### Key Direction

### Community Survey

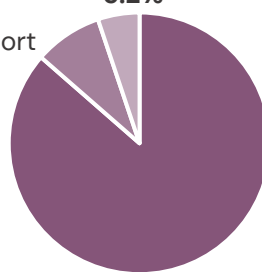
### Statistical Survey

## Encourage Affordable Access to Facilities and Services

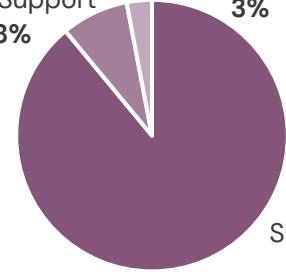
Make it easier for all people to have **affordable access to facilities and services** by:

- » **Decreasing financial barriers** for people to access to community spaces, services, and programs, and
- » **Equitably distributing** community services, social services, facilities, and mobility options across the entire community.

Suggest Changes  
5.2%  
Don't Support  
8.4%



Don't Support  
8%  
Suggest Changes  
3%



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Expand eligibility for affordable programs and services (e.g., LEAP pass)
- ▶ Increase inclusive programs, recognizing people have different needs
- ▶ Consider free / low-cost transit programs
- ▶ Lobby other levels of government for programs and funding
- ▶ Mixed feedback on distribution:
  - » Some support for equitable distribution of facilities and services throughout the community
  - » Some suggestions to focus facilities and services for efficiency (e.g., near transit, close to density, to service those most in need)



*Why would everyone not have access to affordable facilities and services? This is why we don't need a primary urban centre. We need to have festivals and fun activities in all parts of Nanaimo. How about a water park for the children in further North Nanaimo (Woodgrove area).*



*Do not support providing all services to remote single-family-dwellings that are more easily cheaply provided in dense urban housing near the core.*





## SUPPORTIVE CITY

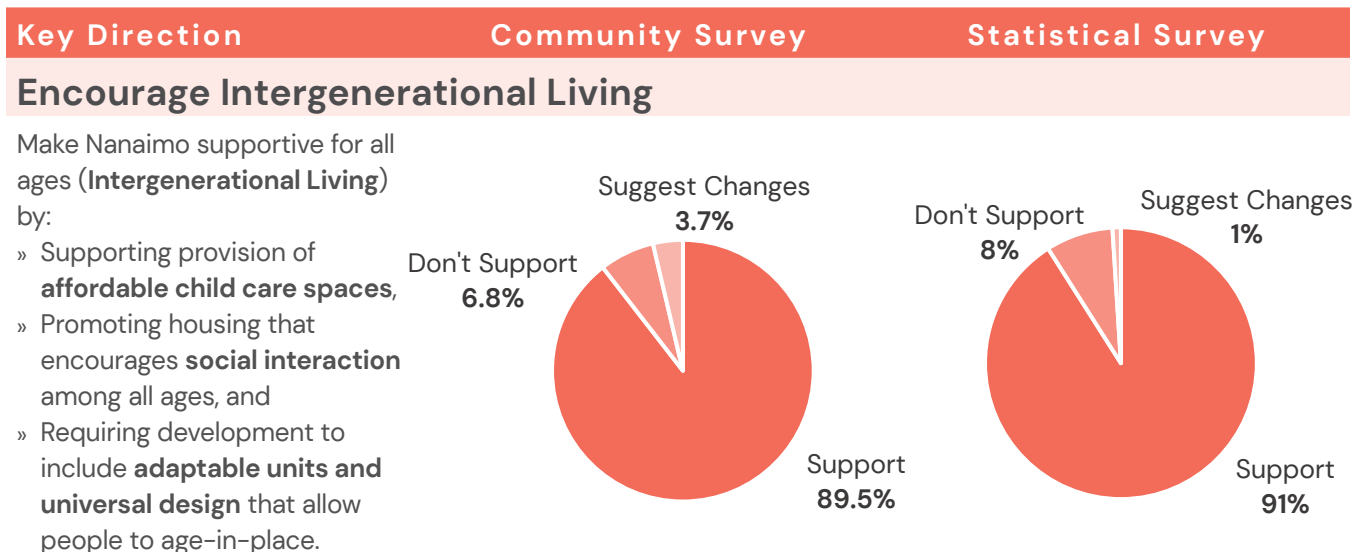
Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### 3.1.6 SUPPORTIVE CITY

A focus of the draft City Plan is creating a caring community where everyone has an opportunity to live their best life. The plan encourages an increasingly integrated approach to health, wellness, and community services so residents can more easily access the supports and opportunities they need.

#### SURVEY RESULTS

Participants were asked about their level of support for **5 key directions related to a Supportive City**.



#### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

##### Intergenerational Living

- ▶ Support interaction between children and elders
- ▶ Encourage different types / scales of housing in a neighbourhood to suit different life stages
- ▶ Urgently address need for affordable daycare

##### Universal Design

- ▶ Consider how accessibility needs relate to design and the ability to have innovative and creative environments
- ▶ Involve those with different needs in design
- ▶ Concerns about affordability



*How about locations that combine day care and elderly care homes. Our old and young should be together.*





## SUPPORTIVE CITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



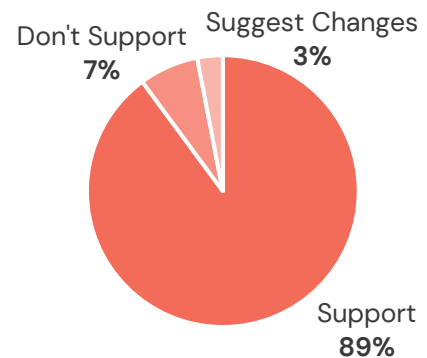
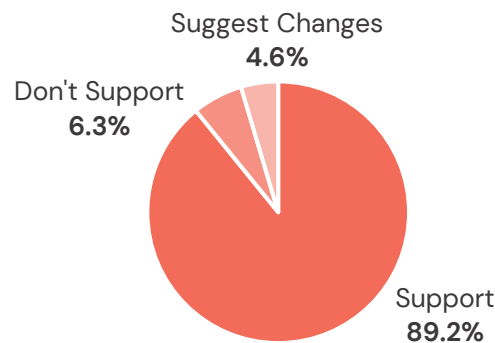
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Improve Access to Healthy Food

Improve **access to healthy food** and support efforts to **distribute food** to residents with limited resources



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

#### City Role

- ▶ Mixed feedback on City's role in access to healthy food:
  - » Increase city role to help deliver stronger supports throughout the community
  - » Focus on supporting and encouraging non-profits and others to provide services
- ▶ Update policies to support and create opportunity for local food production (e.g., growing, processing)
- ▶ Prioritize food sovereignty and the rights of people to access culturally appropriate food

#### Local Food Production

- ▶ Mixed feedback on shifting to local food production:
  - » Some suggestions to set targets and focus on substantially increasing local food production
  - » Some suggestions to focus on supply chain reliability and ensuring logistics continue



*Food sovereignty is most important and this approach is more than distribution of food, it must include choices of food. Support for social determinants of health that allow residents to make choices.*



*Food is a human right. Residents are well-nourished at all times, and have equitable access to the foods and food systems that allow them to thrive.*





## SUPPORTIVE CITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### Key Direction

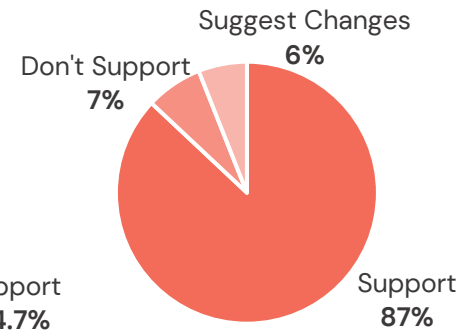
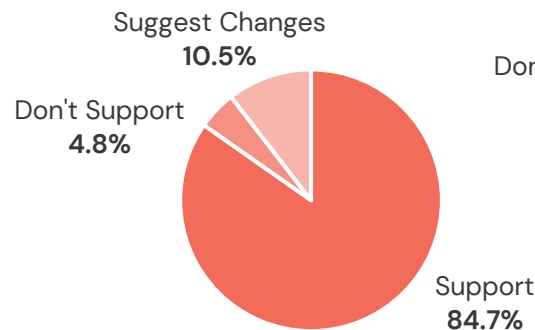
### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Reduce Risk of Social Challenges

Work to **reduce risk of social challenges** including homelessness and mental health or substance abuse disorders by:

- » Encouraging early identification, screening, intervention, and supports for **children and youth**,
- » Encouraging and supporting efforts to improve **health outreach and services** to isolated, disadvantaged, and/or marginalized people, and
- » Creating **safe and equitable public spaces** that consider public safety and wellbeing for all.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### City Role

- ▶ Mixed feedback on City's role in addressing social challenges:
  - » Some suggestions to focus on lobbying those tasked with leading (Provincial, Federal Governments) to take more action in resolving the public health crisis
  - » Some concerns that not enough is being done and the City should take a more active / direct role (with investments) in advancing potential solutions
- ▶ Encourage and support an integrated health model that includes the full range of resources that a person needs to support recovery
- ▶ Support activation of more social workers that help people find pathways to recovery
- ▶ Frustration over growth in social disorder and a desire for urgent and concrete action

### Potential City Focus Areas

- ▶ Increase initiatives for children and youth including programs, facilities, and services that provide opportunity for positive activity and socialization (partner with and support the School District where appropriate)
- ▶ Improve City services like transit and active transportation that provide low-cost / free ways to move around the city



*This is a massive undertaking and is probably out of the reach of local government. Improving outreach services (ie food) would go a long way to assist those in need.*







## SUPPORTIVE CITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



### Key Direction

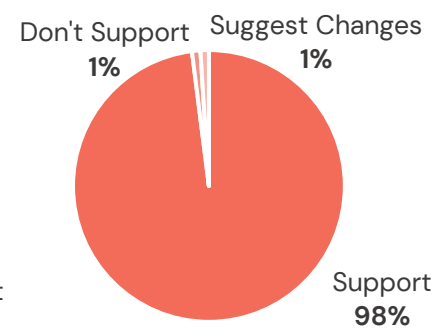
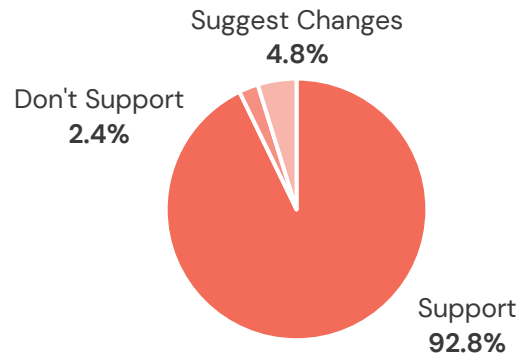
### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Increase Emergency Preparedness

Increase our City's **emergency preparedness** by:

- » **Working with all levels of government and agencies** to be prepared to respond to community emergencies, both natural and human-caused, and
- » Working with partners, businesses, and community members to increase **community awareness for emergency preparedness**.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### City Role

- ▶ Continue ongoing emergency planning, including preparing infrastructure for climate change impacts
- ▶ Ensure solutions and responses are locally appropriate
- ▶ Concerns about cost
- ▶ Partner with others (Province, Island Health) to ensure vulnerable community members are supported in an emergency



*I strongly support this. We don't even imagine what to think about to prepare for unknown climate risk. We need to learn about how climate could affect us as a community and what we need to do to prepare.*



### Communication & Awareness

- ▶ Increase information about emergency events, what to do in an emergency, etc.
- ▶ Support community-led emergency preparedness
- ▶ Provide more education and information about how to prepare for emergencies and climate change



*Develop community groups to educate, lead and respond to resident needs in the city.*





## SUPPORTIVE CITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### Key Direction

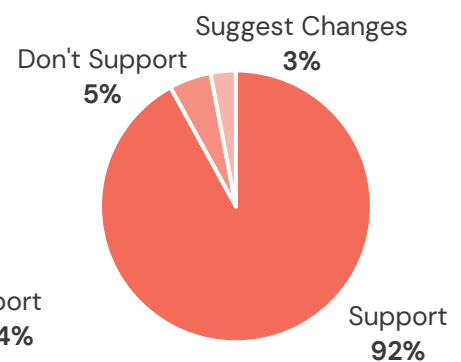
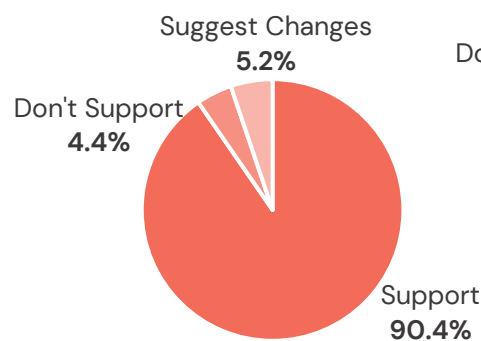
### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Create Opportunities for Participation in Recreation, Culture & Wellness

Create opportunities for **broad participation** in recreation, culture & wellness by:

- » Working with partners to **integrate community health services** and supporting wellness in all dimensions of health – physical, mental, and emotional,
- » Coordinating **active mobility and transit** to support **equitable access** to services that support health, recreation, and wellbeing, and
- » Working to **address geographical gaps** in recreation, cultural, and wellness facilities (e.g., South Nanaimo).



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Acknowledge the role of recreation and activity as a preventative health measure
- ▶ Increase funding that enables organizations and non-profits to provide programs for community
- ▶ Plan ahead to add recreation facilities in future growth locations
- ▶ Ensure new development contributes to community facilities
- ▶ Develop multi-functional facilities as social supports (heating and cooling centres during extreme weather conditions)
- ▶ Update / add new facilities that provide more variety in spaces and recreation value
- ▶ Increase diversity in program and facility options
- ▶ Provide affordable or free mobility options for those with lower-incomes, youth, etc.



*Municipal government has a very defined role. Parks and Rec and youth / community activity is woefully overlooked as a long term benefit to anti-social behaviour and risk factors. Provide as much as possible at the least level of barriers to engage.*

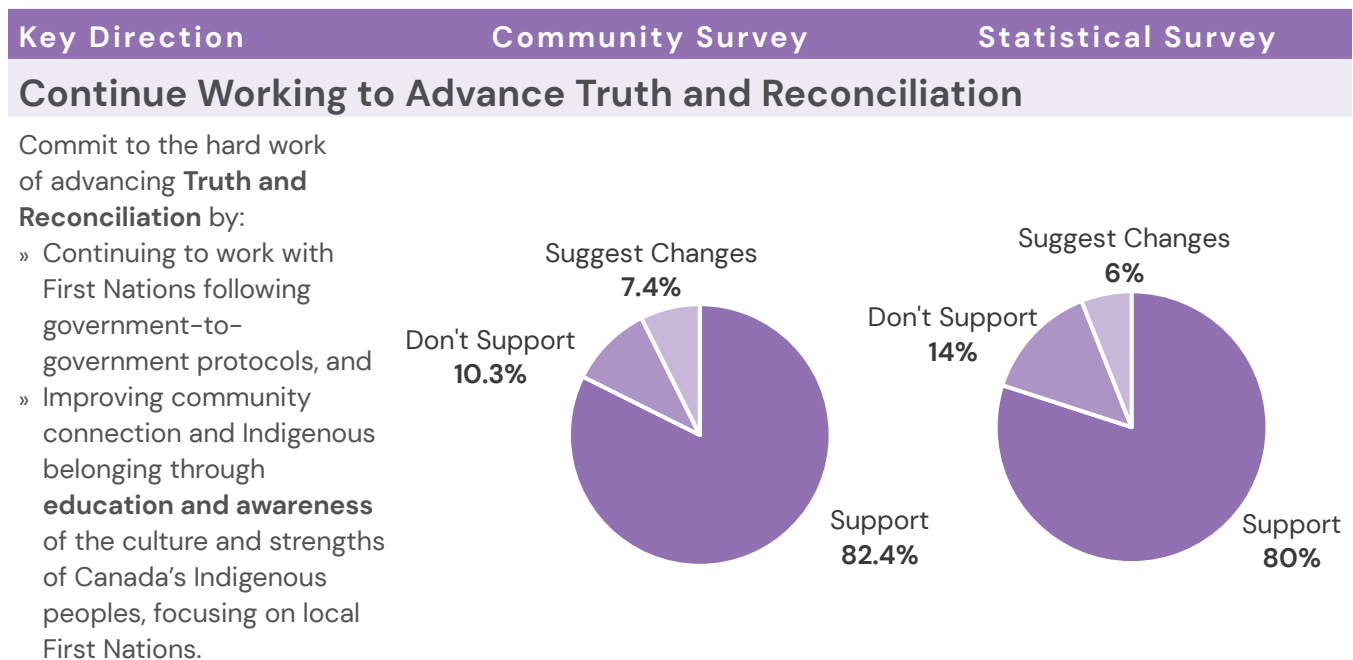


### 3.1.7 INCLUSIVE & EQUITABLE

The draft City Plan contains specific policies and decisive actions toward an inclusive Nanaimo. The plan outlines a commitment to communication, learning, advocacy, and action to help improve historical imbalance in the delivery of resources and bring equity to the forefront of decision-making.

#### SURVEY RESULTS

Participants were asked about their level of support for **5 key directions related to Inclusive & Equitable**.



#### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Ensure Reconciliation is truly collaborative and genuine
- ▶ Follow leadership and guidance of First Nations
- ▶ Encourage all citizens to do their own work to improve understanding and awareness
- ▶ Create opportunities for learning and sharing
- ▶ Consider how to acknowledge and include all groups who have been marginalized



## Key Direction

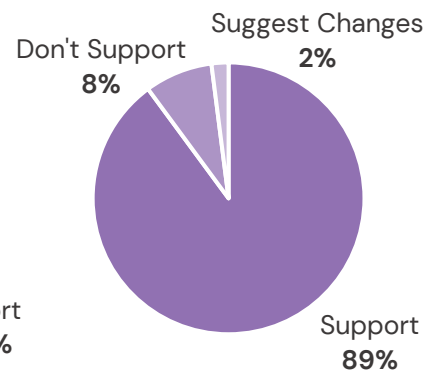
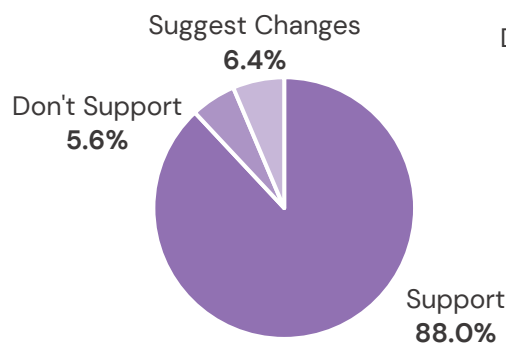
## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Increase Community Equity and Inclusivity

Work to increase our community's **Equity & Inclusivity** by:

- » **Considering all residents** of the community when making planning, design, and investment decisions,
- » **Creating safe facilities, spaces, and programs** where all can feel comfortable, welcomed, and represented, and
- » **Celebrating and sharing cultures** and welcoming diversity.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Mixed feedback on how to consider all residents:
  - » Some desire to increase equity in decision-making (i.e., listening to all voices, but consider equity in prioritization)
  - » Some concerns about prioritizing some voices over others
- ▶ Engage experts on actions
- ▶ Support the efforts of organizations and groups working to support and promote inclusivity
- ▶ Support and listen, but ensure action is taken (consensus from all is not achievable and can lead to stagnation / inaction)
- ▶ Protect against hate and extreme activity (e.g., gangs)



*Everyone is to be thought of, but having too many people deciding key factors like that only leads to not moving forward. Unfortunately there is always disagreements between people, not everyone can be appeased all the time. Too much talk often leads to zero action, lots of wasted time and of course funds.*



*It's good to note that respecting diverse cultures also means not requiring that all cultural knowledge be shared, and to ensure that knowledge that is being shared is being done so with the express permission and guidance of leading members of that culture.*







**Key Direction**

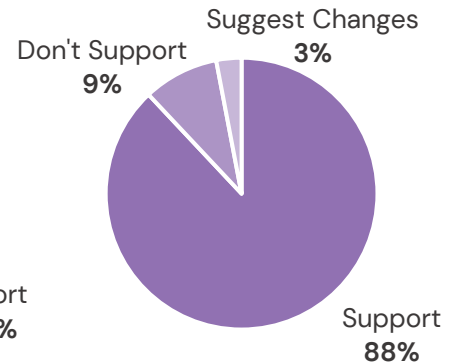
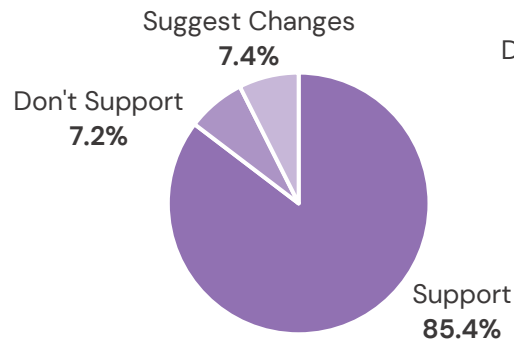
**Community Survey**

**Statistical Survey**

**Provide Meaningful Engagement Opportunities**

Provide **meaningful engagement** opportunities that:

- » Encourage **all residents** to **express their voice** on community matters, and
- » Seek input from vulnerable, marginalized, and **under-represented groups**.



**COMMENT THEMES**

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Do more to engage specific populations (e.g., youth, vulnerable populations, faith groups, taxpayers)
- ▶ Balance public input with other input (e.g., technical information)
- ▶ Listen to and show respect to input shared
- ▶ Bring back “fun” ways to engage in community (e.g., penny for your thoughts booth)
- ▶ Gather input from representative groups (e.g., neighbourhood associations, community organizations)



*Literally go talk to high school kids about what they want, no one considers them and they are the future. You want a city that is accepting and supportive of public transit, go get the grade 11 and 12 kids on your side. They are almost voting age and are starting to out number boomers.*



*Support this but it is only meaningful if we act on the voices heard, not just ask for input after a plan is already set or in motion. This will take more time and energy that “meaningful engagement” has previously come to mean.*





**Key Direction**

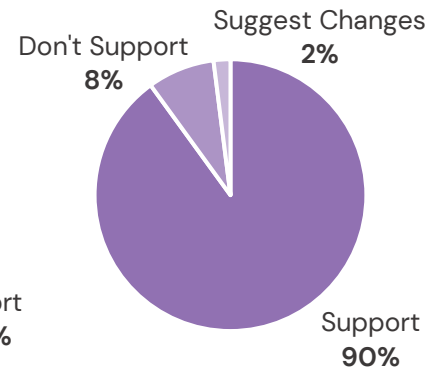
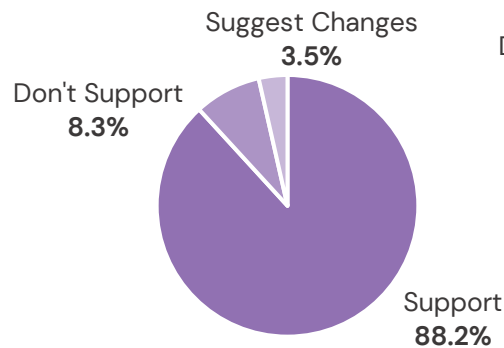
**Community Survey**

**Statistical Survey**

**Improve Access for All**

Improve **Access for All** in our city by:

- » Increasing safe, healthy, and **equitable mobility options** that reduce transportation barriers,
- » Designing and retrofitting public spaces for **universal access**, and
- » Encouraging development of **adaptable and accessible housing**.



**COMMENT THEMES**

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- Prioritize – retrofit and upgrade the areas that bring the greatest benefit first
- Broaden to be not just accessible, but barrier free
- Prioritize accessible transit programs and facilities



*The issue of access for all is important and this statement doesn't suggest that. Barrier free access in the broadest sense should be acknowledged.*



*Retrofitting public spaces will likely be very expensive, so need to carefully consider which spaces would be most beneficial for these changes. Cost/benefit analysis is a significant contributing factor.*





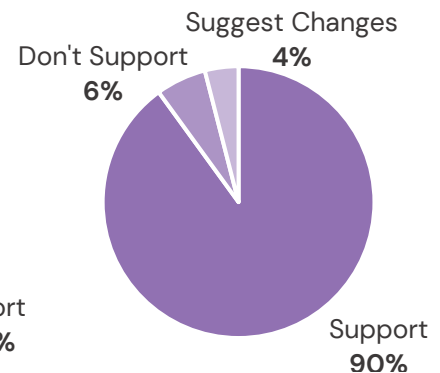
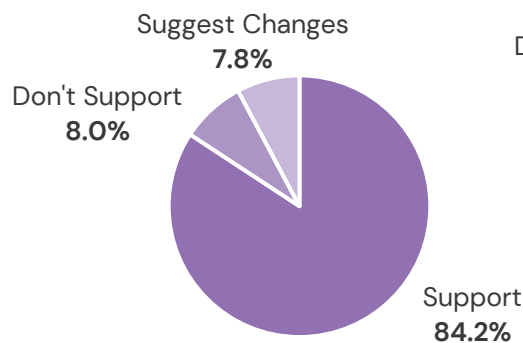
**Key Direction**

**Community Survey**

**Statistical Survey**

**Increase Housing Diversity**

Increase **diverse housing options** that make it easier for all people to find a suitable place to call home that works for their family and their income



**COMMENT THEMES**

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Mixed feedback on location of affordable housing:
  - » Some encouraging variety throughout the entire community / in all neighbourhoods
  - » Some suggestions to direct affordable housing more specifically
- ▶ Requires collaborative response from all levels of government and non-profits
- ▶ Focus on increasing rental opportunities in the community
- ▶ Consider the changing definition of affordability
- ▶ Align this with economic development to help people earn higher wages
- ▶ Prioritize family-friendly housing
- ▶ Increase variety of housing types and tenures (e.g., more suites, lane houses, co-ops, mobile homes, townhomes)
- ▶ Increase income supports



*I fully support diverse options. The challenge is to make any of them affordable there is such a gap between minimum wage incomes or welfare and rents. Having watched this problem grow for years, I favour income supports and let people rent where they can...*





## ACCESS TO NATURE & OUTDOOR RECREATION

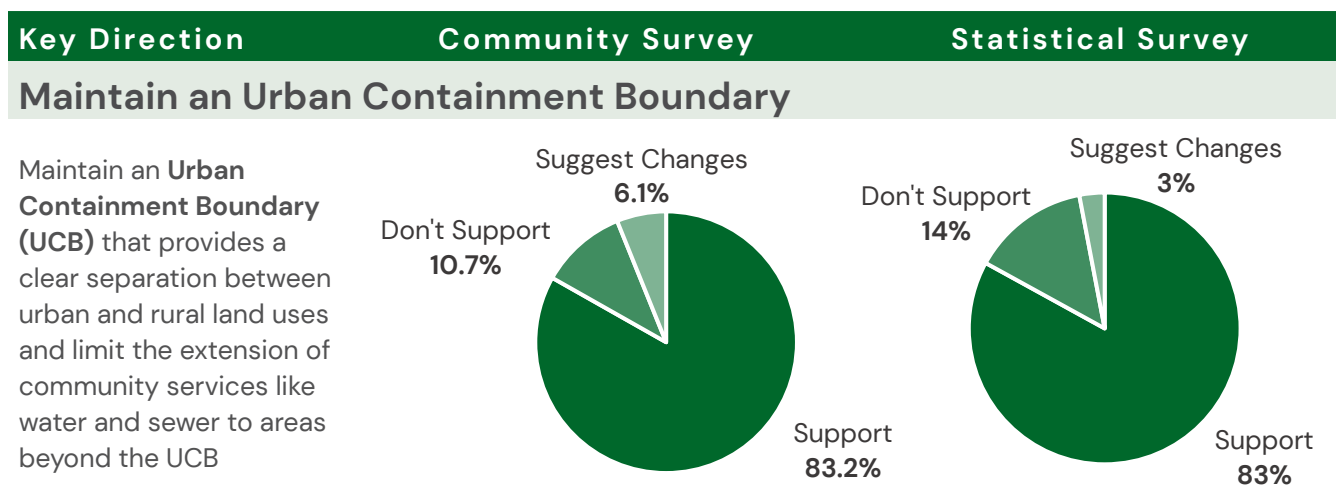
Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### 3.1.8 ACCESS TO NATURE & OUTDOOR RECREATION

The draft City Plan promotes protecting and enhancing existing natural spaces as well as bringing more nature into our urban spaces. The plan combines Parks, Recreation, Culture & Wellness planning with Mobility and Land Use to create complete, accessible systems where green space and trails are a fully integrated part of our community.

#### SURVEY RESULTS

Participants were asked about their level of support for **7 key directions related to Access to Nature & Outdoor Recreation**.



#### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Mixed feedback on managing growth:
  - » Some concerns about limiting growth too much (notably for families or industrial lands)
  - » Some support for limiting future outward growth and working to limit sprawl as much as possible
- ▶ Consider affect on development in the RDN
- ▶ Consider aligning the Urban Containment Boundary and the City Boundary
- ▶ Build in flexibility for future considerations
- ▶ Ensure rural areas have safe drinking water



*The UCB has worked very well so far and our City has benefited from it. We need to consider the impact of modifying the UCB to address a specific land areas in the future if the associated costs can bring in much needs high paying long term jobs.*







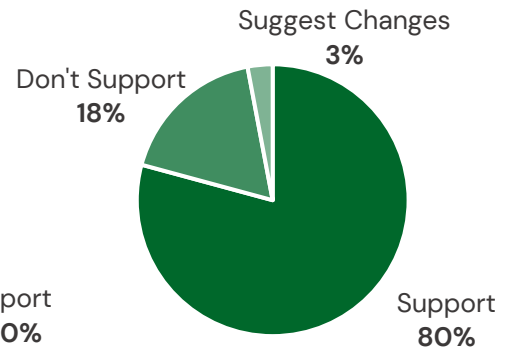
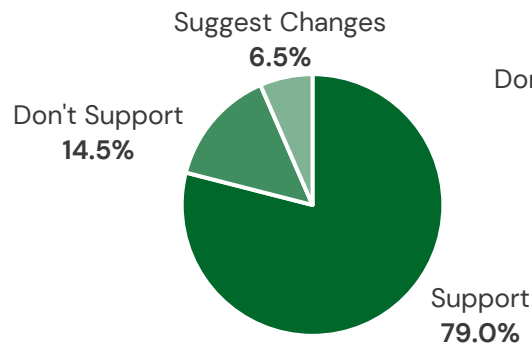
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Adjust the Urban Containment Boundary in South Nanaimo

**Adjust the UCB** in South Nanaimo so that lands east of Cable Bay Trail are outside the boundary and therefore will not have urban services or development (in response to servicing constraints and engagement input)



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Consider protecting more lands west of Cable Bay Trail as well (limit impacts to Cable Bay Trail)
- ▶ Consider adding park space in the area
- ▶ Discourage housing development in the area
- ▶ Share more information about the Urban Containment Boundary and its purpose



*I think the eastern side of the Cable Bay Trail should be protected from development. I don't want to see a clearcut from the trail, so the boundary needs to be significant enough.*





# ACCESS TO NATURE & OUTDOOR RECREATION

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

## Key Direction

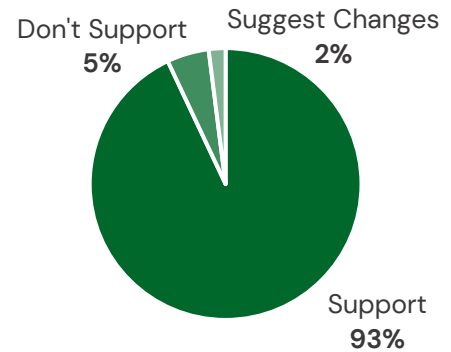
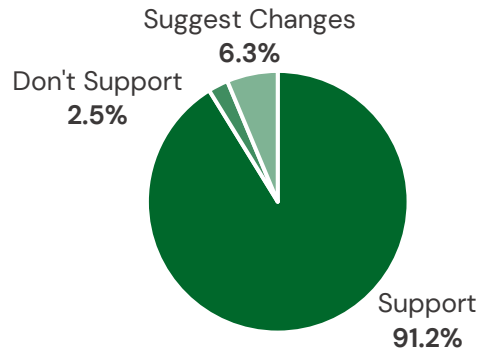
## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Protect Lands with Special Features

Designate lands with special features to **support their protection**, including:

- » Designating lands with environmental, forestry, or agricultural values as **Resource Management lands**, and
- » Designating lands with natural and recreational values as **parks**.



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Work with First Nations when considering lands for protection
- ▶ Protect key resources including woodlands / forested areas, Garry oak meadows, watercourses, wetlands, watersheds
- ▶ Acquire land now to expand existing parks for the future
- ▶ Develop biodiversity plans to preserve / enhance natural ecology
- ▶ Concerns about development pressures / impacts to remaining greenspace in the city
- ▶ Concerns about combining environmental protection with production (forestry, agriculture) within the Resource Management land use designation
- ▶ Increase protection of ecologically sensitive areas (DPA1) including human and dog impacts, garbage, camping / limit public access to some areas



*The city needs to buy property that will enlarge the existing parks in Nanaimo. Small price to pay for the future.*



*Further, more detailed designations of different land types. "Resource management lands" all-encompassing both environmental and forestry value lands is confusing as they are not equal.*





# ACCESS TO NATURE & OUTDOOR RECREATION

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



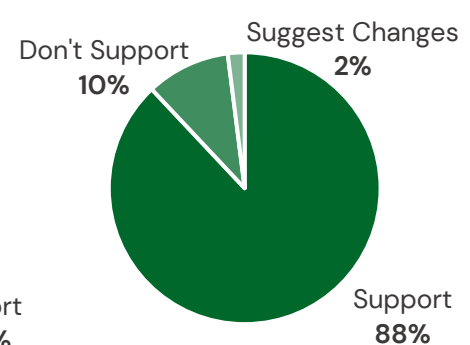
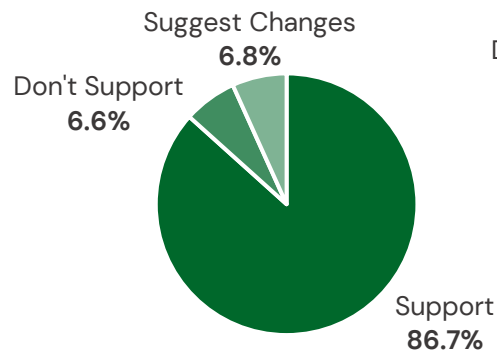
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Add Parks into Urban Centres

**Add parks into Urban Centres** – especially areas where they are lacking like Woodgrove, Nanaimo North, Country Club, and South Gate – as part of their transition to becoming complete and attractive hubs of activity



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Free up space in Centres currently used for parking to create parks and green spaces
- ▶ Integrate design as part of future development so park spaces bring the best value to the area
- ▶ Suggestions for park uses in Urban Centres:
  - » Urban-style parks
  - » Indigenous education centre
  - » Habitat areas / green spaces
  - » Rain gardens
  - » Playgrounds
  - » Dog-off leash areas
  - » Trails and connected linkages
- ▶ Ensure new and existing park spaces are maintained and safe
- ▶ Some challenges imagining parks within existing mall areas / busy areas
- ▶ Suggestions for parks in areas beyond Centres



*There are too many paved and huge parking lots in Nanaimo at these malls. Could we have a small corner in each that has a playground for children for instance? Perhaps a community garden? We need to green up these spaces!*



*Depends. Parks have to be planned, integrated and part of a network to have the most value. Pocket parks are uninteresting, islands, and incur development and maintenance costs.*





# ACCESS TO NATURE & OUTDOOR RECREATION

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

## Key Direction

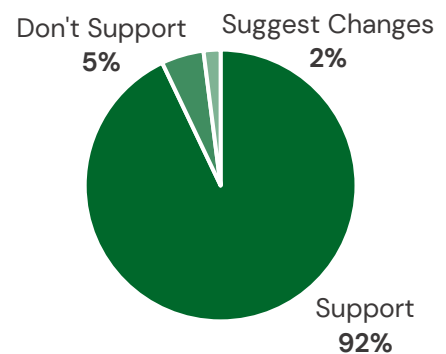
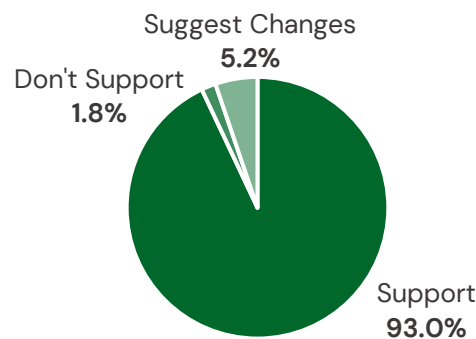
## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Maintain a Natural Character in the City

Seek to maintain a **natural character** to our city, including:

- » Maintaining and increasing the city's **tree canopy**,
- » Acquiring, restoring, and managing **natural areas**, and
- » Continuing to create an integrated and **connected park and open space system** throughout our city.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- Consider tree selection and placement, including:
  - » A focus on native and food producing species over exotic species
  - » Soil volume and maintenance considerations
  - » View protection (select appropriate species to have both views and trees)
  - » Allergens / pollen production
- Increase trees in:
  - » Public streets and parks
  - » Private yards (through education, incentives, and encouragement of landowners)
- Recognize urgency and importance related to climate change and the healthy benefits of nature
- Protect existing trees (expand and buffer parks, preserve during development, update tree protection policies, etc.)
- Streamline the process to remove dangerous or encroaching trees from private properties
- Include pollinator landscapes



*The importance of trees cannot be overstated in an urban environment with the advent of global warming.*



*Fully support – let's also look at appropriate native species and also fruit trees that can provide food for local folks.*



*Add a section on increasing pollinator habitat in the city. This could include adding pollinator gardens to existing parks, adding more native plants to city gardens and boulevards, and requiring developers to include native flowering plants in their landscape designs.*







# ACCESS TO NATURE & OUTDOOR RECREATION

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



## Key Direction

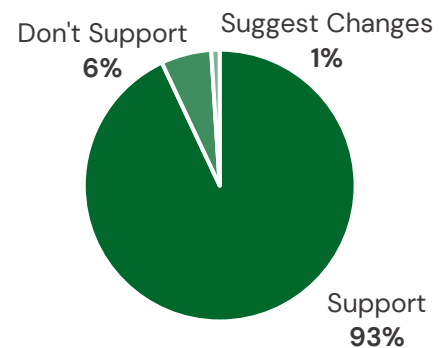
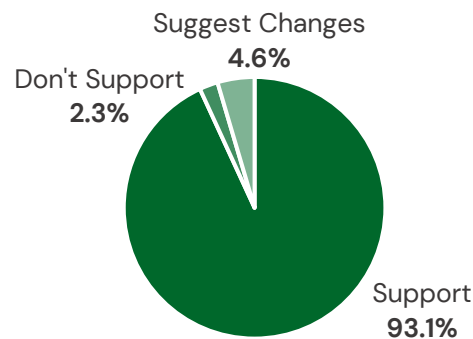
## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Create an Exceptional Recreational Trails Network

Create an **exceptional recreational trails network** by:

- » Expanding the **trails network**, linking to natural areas, schools, parks, and other destinations as well as the overall active mobility network, and
- » Working with partners to establish, build, and maintain **recreational trails**.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Ensure maintenance and safety of existing and future trails (e.g., Linley Valley)
- ▶ Ensure dedications from development are high quality and bring benefit to the community
- ▶ Support volunteers creating and maintaining trails
- ▶ Add amenities (e.g., garbage receptacles, dog waste stations)
- ▶ Consider topography in trail design (i.e., challenges of steep terrain)
- ▶ Protect and promote mountain bike trails
- ▶ Avoid environmental impacts and close and remediate trails that are environmentally adverse
- ▶ Focus on linking between parks and existing trails to maximize recreational value (including use of infrastructure to overcome barriers like highways, rail lines, etc.)
- ▶ Link trails and on-street / active transportation connections for a connected network



*Topography of the trails must be taken into account when designing a network. Steep areas limit biking or walking to the very fit.*



*Trails should not end at benches on rock bluff that are habitat for rare communities – mosses, lichens, grasses, flowering plants all are sensitive to traffic. Ecological inventories first before construction, map rarities, document. This demonstrates a caring concerned community.*





# ACCESS TO NATURE & OUTDOOR RECREATION

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

## Key Direction

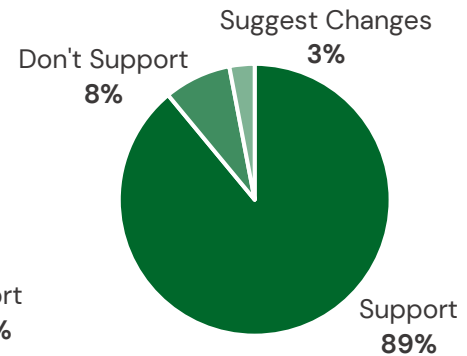
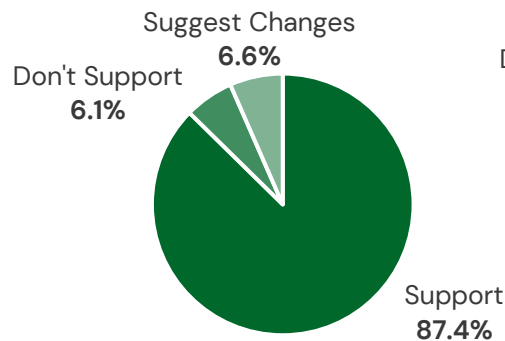
## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Build and Maintain and High Quality Parks System

Continue to build and maintain a **high quality parks system** by:

- » Working towards all residents having **park space within a 5-minute walk**,
- » Continuing to **add to the parks system** to support a growing community, and
- » **Regularly monitoring** community needs, climate, and recreational trends and making changes to the parks system accordingly.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Ensure dedicated park spaces are functional and bring benefit to surrounding area and community (concerns about unused park space)
- ▶ Preserve "nature-only" spaces without human use
- ▶ Reduce or limit species that have adverse impacts (e.g., invasive species) or limited natural benefit (e.g., grass)
- ▶ Include consideration of safe access to get to parks (i.e., walking route to get there)
- ▶ Ensure maintenance of new and existing parks
- ▶ Concerns that a 5-minute walk goal is overly ambitious / consider fewer, larger parks with more amenities in a 10- to 15-minute walk
- ▶ Concerns about unlawful camping in parks
- ▶ Increase amenities (e.g., washrooms, interpretive information, furnishings, courts)



*This is positive; however, it will sometimes be better to invest in larger greenspaces / parks. Many 'pocket parks' are under-utilized in Nanaimo.*



*Support, but not enough acknowledgment of the safety during that 5-minute walk.*





## A GREEN APPROACH

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



### 3.1.9 A GREEN APPROACH

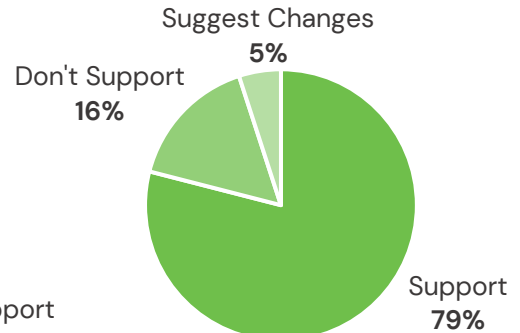
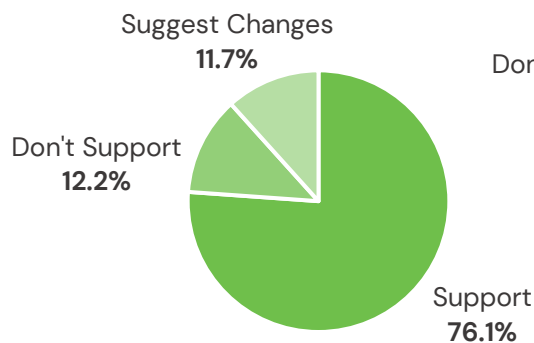
The draft City Plan identifies updated targets and actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, prepare for the climate changes we're already seeing, and preserve the lands and waters on which we rely. The plan also integrates land uses and mobility to transition us to more complete communities over time and help residents reduce their carbon-dependency.

#### SURVEY RESULTS

Participants were asked about their level of support for **5 key directions related to A Green Approach**.

Key Direction	Community Survey	Statistical Survey
<b>Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>		

- » Become a **100% renewable city** and reduce Nanaimo's overall community greenhouse gas emissions to below **zero by 2050**, and
- » Utilize a **full spectrum of tools** to reach our targets including green building requirements, electric vehicle support, active mobility adoption, carbon sequestration, and more.



*This seems very ambitious! Is it possible?  
Have other communities achieved this?  
Do we need to adjust it to reflect a  
more reasonable / attainable goal?*



*2050 will be way  
too far over the  
tipping point !*





## A GREEN APPROACH

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

#### Development

- ▶ Couple with compact development to reduce driving and protect natural resources and trees
- ▶ Include other green building elements (e.g., grey water reuse, edible landscapes)
- ▶ Incentivize homeowners to add green technologies (e.g., solar panels)
- ▶ Ensure commercial and industrial buildings meet updated standards
- ▶ Some concerns about impacts on industrial activity (i.e., job impacts)

#### Urgency

- ▶ Mixed feedback on timelines:
  - » Some concerns that 2050 is not soon enough
  - » Some concerns that it is too ambitious and we will not be able to achieve it
- ▶ Focus on incremental targets and report progress widely to build momentum
- ▶ Include flexibility to integrate new and emerging technologies
- ▶ Some concerns that Nanaimo's share of emissions are too small to effect global change
- ▶ Concerns about limitations to collaboration between levels of government
- ▶ Some preference to follow Provincial-leadership on the topic



*Yes, but with real vision and urgency. Green building requirements get strong push back from developers because while you profess to want 'affordability', green buildings cost more.*



#### EV Technology

- ▶ Mixed feedback on role of EVs:
  - » Some desire to encourage faster adoption (e.g., all new development requiring EV charging, transit shift to EV)
  - » Some concerns about impacts of EV (e.g., batteries, electricity shortage)

#### Affordability

- ▶ Concerns about tax implications
- ▶ Mixed feedback on housing affordability:
  - » Some concerns costs will impact housing affordability
  - » Some suggestions this needs to be non-optional (focus on other ways to support affordability)
- ▶ Concerns about retrofit costs of older homes
- ▶ Suggestions for equity opportunities to allow all income classes to take action (e.g., incentives)

#### Other Considerations

- ▶ Consider life-cycle costs of all actions (including environmental and carbon costs)
- ▶ Explore how to measure climate impacts beyond city realm (e.g., emissions from manufacturing of goods we use)
- ▶ Ensure changes don't outsource carbon to other jurisdictions



*Support. However, many individual residents can't afford e-cars, solar collectors on their roofs, etc. so assisted funding must be made available, and if these green changes are for everyone, their overall costs to individuals must be lowered to make it affordable.*





## A GREEN APPROACH

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



### Key Direction

### Community Survey

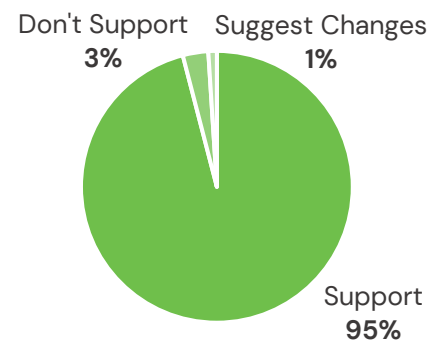
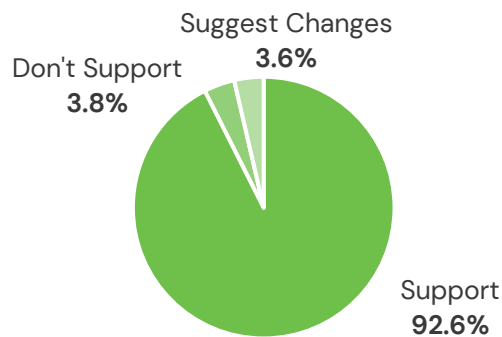
### Statistical Survey

## Build Climate Resiliency

### Build climate resiliency

by:

- » Understanding flood, coastal, fire, and other climate hazard risks and taking steps to **adapt to climate change**, and
- » **Protecting and enhancing ecological assets** (e.g., watercourses, trees, natural shorelines, etc.) that support climate resiliency.



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Recognize Indigenous leadership in pursuit of building climate resiliency
- ▶ Strengthen protection measures for key assets (e.g., stronger tree regulations, larger setbacks on watercourses, protect all wetlands)
- ▶ Increase community education and understanding on the topic and support and encourage local stewardship groups
- ▶ Protect floodplains – ban or extremely limit future building in these areas



*This is very important. Improve community knowledge on this and encourage local stewardship groups to develop...*



*Also support ecological connectivity – that is a key feature to maintaining eco-assets and the services they provide.*







## A GREEN APPROACH

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### Key Direction

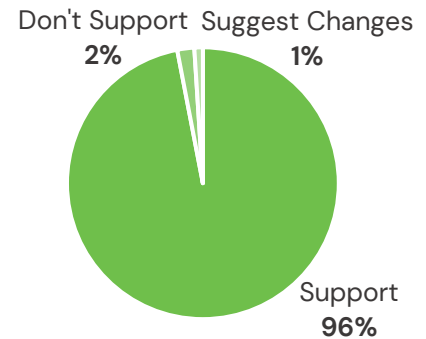
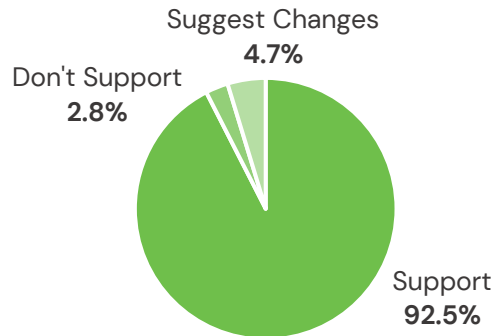
### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Increase Green Stormwater Management

### Maintain watercourses

used for storm drainage in a natural state, and **develop green stormwater systems** (like swales, stormwater ponds, detention systems, and absorbent landscapes) that mimic natural systems to support watershed health and affordable stormwater management



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Ensure natural systems and the marine environment are protected (concerns about impacts from rainwater runoff)
- ▶ Update building bylaws to further integrate green standards and reduce runoff both on site (rainwater infiltration) and in-building (grey water reuse)
- ▶ Mixed feedback on use of green stormwater systems:
  - » Some concerns that natural systems will not be sufficiently engineered / maintained
  - » Some suggestions to reduce / remove use of "hard" stormwater methods and focus on systems that mimic nature



*Include language about seeking to return to natural water balance (e.g. 10% surface run-off, 40% evapotranspiration, 25% shallow infiltration and 25% deep infiltration).*



*Ensure new development is designed to the highest climate resiliency standards to minimize impacts on water, stormwater, and wastewater.*





## A GREEN APPROACH

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



### Key Direction

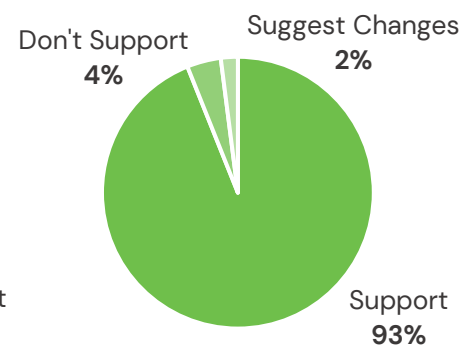
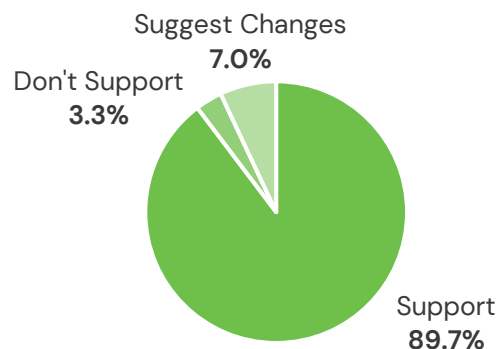
### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Promote Sustainable Waste Management

Promote more **sustainable waste management** by:

- » Working to keep **organic matter** out of the Regional Landfill by improving waste sorting (no organic waste in black bins) to support greenhouse gas emission reductions, and
- » Fostering a **circular economy** which involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing, and recycling existing materials and products, rather than a “take, make, waste” model which uses materials briefly before sending them to waste.



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Improve waste management practices in multi-family buildings and commercial businesses
- ▶ Support and incent businesses that promote circular economy / reuse concept
- ▶ Increase convenience to support adoption of improved waste management practices:
  - » Expand curb-side recycling (e.g., glass, soft plastic)
  - » Add opportunities for public goods exchange (e.g., monthly curb swaps, reuse centre like the old recycling exchange)
  - » Locate recycling centres in easily accessible areas, including for those with limited mobility or income
- ▶ Increase education and enforcement to improve resident behaviours
- ▶ Lobby senior government to limit product packaging waste
- ▶ Explore emerging waste technologies (e.g., biogas, incineration)
- ▶ Reduce emissions from waste management practices



*We are on the right track with residential Nanaimo, but what about multi-family and commercial... It is way further behind, and that seems to be a huge direction of the City.*





## A GREEN APPROACH

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

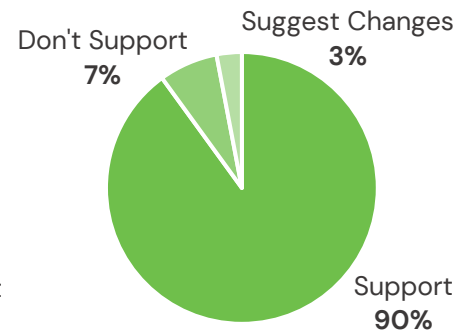
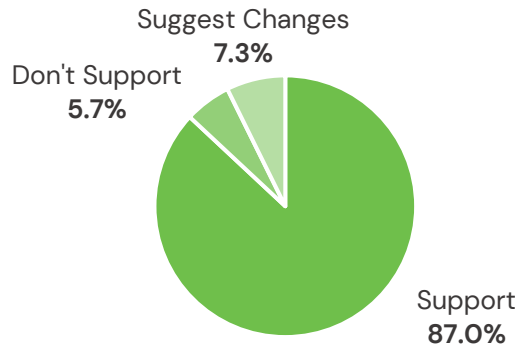
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Balance Dark Skies and Community Safety

Recognize the value of **maintaining dark skies** and limiting light pollution that can have harmful effects on ecosystems, wildlife, and quality of life, while balancing dark skies with **community safety** needs.



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Seek balance: while dark skies are beneficial, safety should be the top priority within the city
- ▶ Increase eco-friendly options (e.g., solar)
- ▶ Reduce non-essential lighting (e.g., commercial signage, facilities that are closed for the night)
- ▶ Review light colour / intensity of street lighting
- ▶ Potentially a lower priority than some other aspects of the plan



*I like this idea. The LED lights in front of our house are so bright! I think they have a need to be on at night, but could be 50% dimmer.*



*Lighting needs to be designed and installed in accordance with illuminating standards. Reduce the amount of non essential lighting from store signs, etc.*



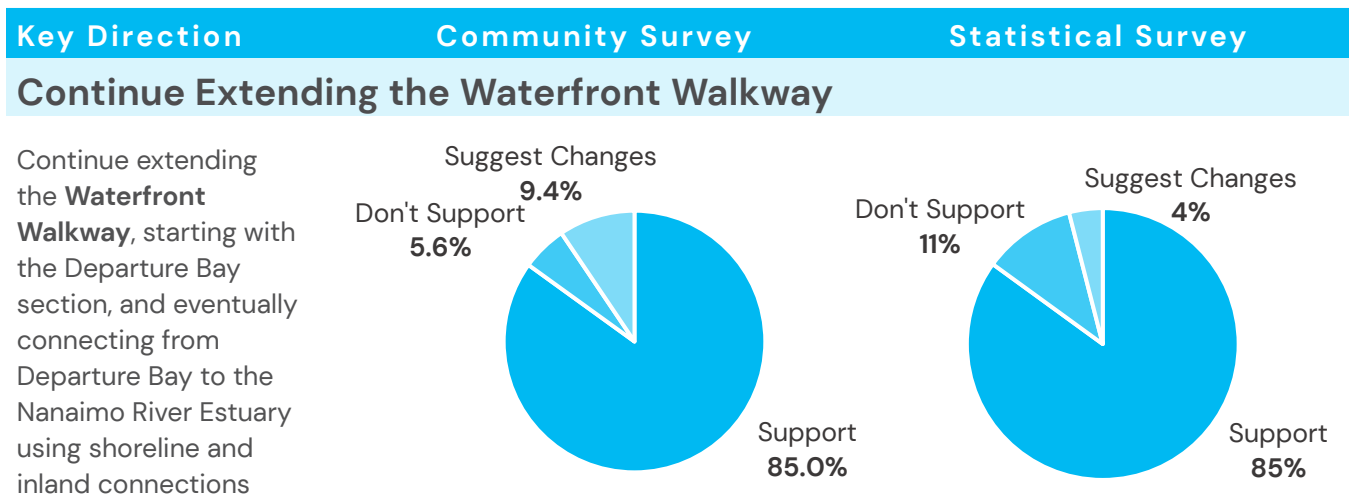


### 3.1.10 A WATERFRONT IDENTITY

While Nanaimo has always prioritized its waterfronts – both marine and freshwater – the draft City Plan puts them at the forefront, including promoting realization of the 13 km Waterfront Walkway from Departure Bay to the Nanaimo River Estuary. As we enhance our waterfronts, we are working to integrate climate change adaptation, environmental restoration, and increased recreational access.

#### SURVEY RESULTS

Participants were asked about their level of support for **9 key directions related to A Waterfront Identity**.



#### COMMENT THEMES

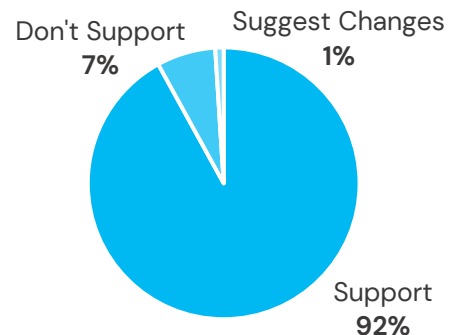
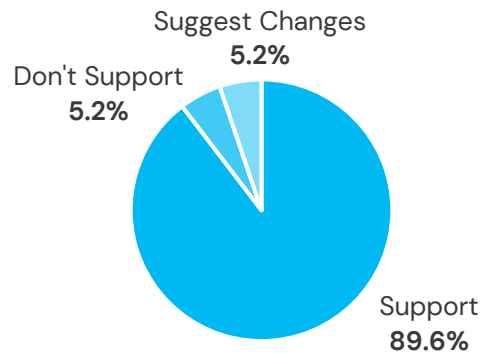
Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Mixed feedback about urgency:
  - » Some suggestions this is a high priority and should be completed as quickly as possible
  - » Some suggestions this should be prioritized below other projects (e.g., addressing social challenges and homelessness, neighbourhood sidewalks)
- ▶ Integrate commercial near the walkway
- ▶ Take measures to provide a safe and comfortable experience for all
- ▶ Ensure coastal shoreline, wildlife habitat, and sensitive areas are protected
- ▶ Be thoughtful about materials (utilize green and natural materials)
- ▶ Mixed feedback about extents and area of focus:
  - » Some support for the section between Departure Bay and BC Ferries (though some non-support due to concerns about environmental impacts)
  - » Some suggestions to prioritize upgrades to the Stewart Avenue section
  - » Some uncertainty about extending the walkway to the south in the future
- ▶ Concerns about costs and suggestions to pursue external funding



Key Direction	Community Survey	Statistical Survey
<b>Prioritize Waterfront Lands for Future Parks</b>		

Prioritize **waterfront lands**, both freshwater and marine, for future parks



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Work with First Nations when considering waterfront lands
- ▶ Create an attractive mix of uses that include commercial, residential, and parkland
- ▶ Ensure that marine-employment opportunities are maintained and protected
- ▶ Add amenities that support water recreation (e.g., paddling)
- ▶ Ensure protection of sensitive ecosystems
- ▶ Manage human impacts (e.g., garbage)



*Yes, while recognizing that the economic future of Vancouver Island will be rooted in marine industries from high tech to fisheries. So, in efforts to make the waterfront publicly accessible, do not do so as a process to eliminate commercial activity. Part of the intrigue of the waterfront is seeing all that is happening.*







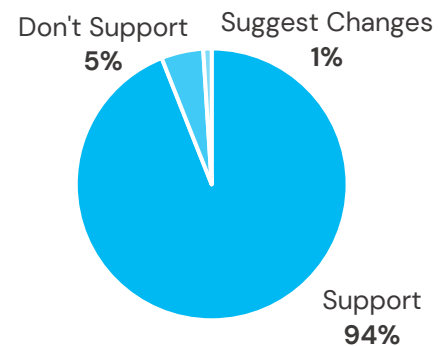
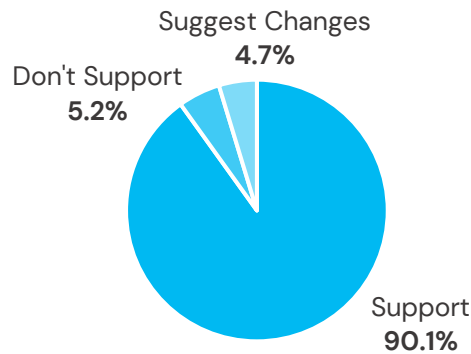
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Enhance Waterfront Experiences and Amenities

Continue enhancing **waterfront experiences** through comfort amenities like washrooms and seating, and more opportunities to “get wet” (e.g., diving, swimming, fishing, boating, etc.)



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Work with First Nations when considering waterfront lands
- ▶ Suggestions for potential amenities:
  - » Washrooms – gender-neutral, universal accessibility, clean, monitored for safety
  - » Changerooms / showers
  - » “Quiet” activities – walking, cycling, paddling, beach use
  - » Space for food trucks / vending
  - » Spaces for work – electric charging, seating
  - » Picnic tables
  - » Universally accessible routes to the water
  - » Observation tower
  - » Non-motorized craft launching
  - » Motorized boat launching
- ▶ Balance amenities with protection and enhancement of natural areas (focus human activity)
- ▶ Manage human impacts (e.g., garbage)
- ▶ Integrate appropriate commercial opportunities (e.g., restaurants, food trucks)



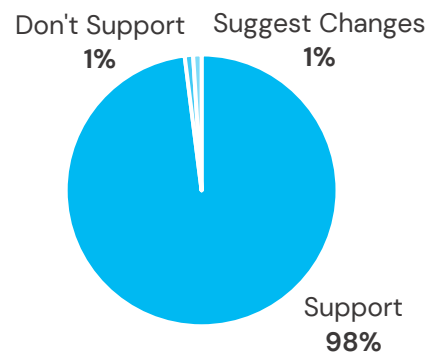
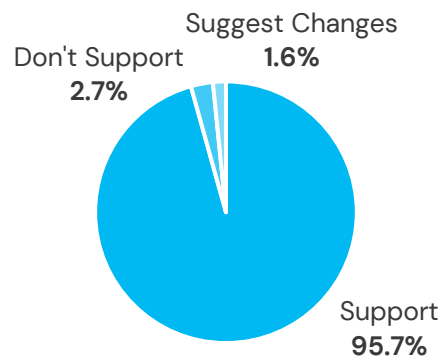
*Love this! I wanted to add that it would be great to enhance waterfront experiences in an accessible/inclusive way, so everyone can reach the actual water and so washrooms are gender neutral and have adult change tables etc. It is hard to see family members with limited access to the waterfront due to accessibility. It really limits what we can do as a family.*





Key Direction	Community Survey	Statistical Survey
Protect and Enhance Shoreline Environments		

Protect and **enhance**  
**sensitive shoreline**  
environments



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Work with industry to reduce or minimize impacts to the shoreline and water
- ▶ Increase educational opportunities about coastal environments
- ▶ Undertake inventories to identify and protect sensitive areas
- ▶ Ensure shorelines of wetlands, creeks, and rivers are also protected
- ▶ Consider impacts of rising seas



*Shoreline should include wetlands, creeks, and rivers.*





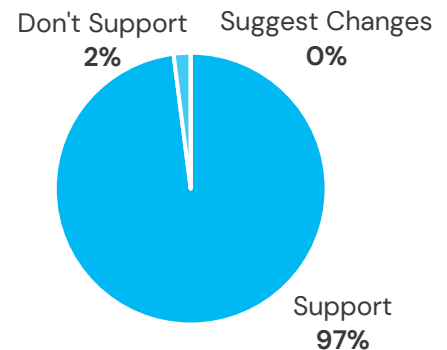
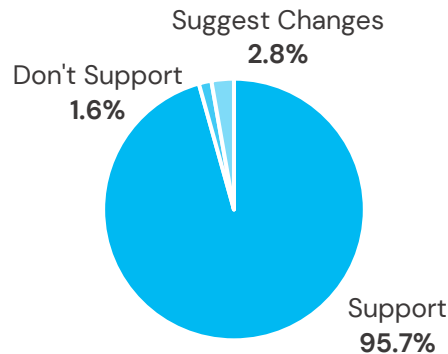
**Key Direction**

**Community Survey**

**Statistical Survey**

**Increase Water Absorption**

Use **best management practices** like rain gardens, rainwater detention, and other methods to help soak water into the ground



**COMMENT THEMES**

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Discourage practices that increase runoff (e.g., paving, land clearing)
- ▶ Increase education and incentives that encourage people to create “water-friendly” yards
- ▶ Emphasize support of natural water balance
- ▶ Preserve natural features that promote water management (e.g., wetlands, native tree and plant cover, riparian areas)



*Yes but change from best management practices to become the standard for management practices.*





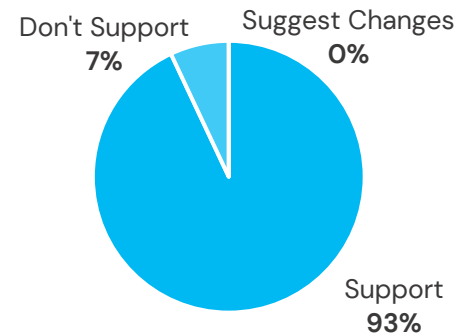
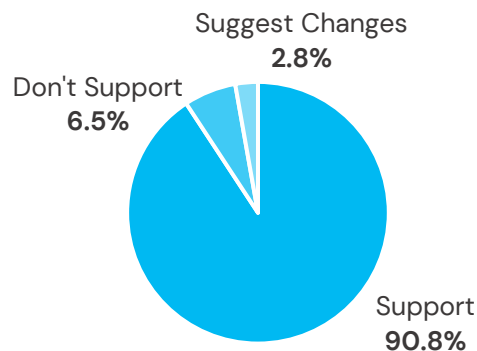
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Adapt Waterfronts to Rising Seas

Factor in climate change and **adapt our waterfronts to rising seas**



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Mixed opinions on seawalls as part of the solution:
  - » Some wish to see removal of seawalls / focus on natural solutions
  - » Some wish to increase seawalls for protection
- ▶ Provide more details about Sea Level Rise studies and potential impact locations and share education about what people can do
- ▶ Concerns about costs and equity



*Educate public about sea-level rise & what they can do to adapt (and of course lower GHG emissions that contribute to worsening the effects of climate change).*





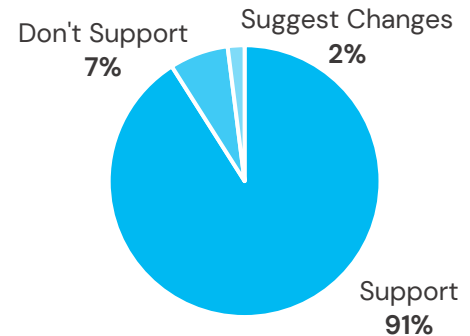
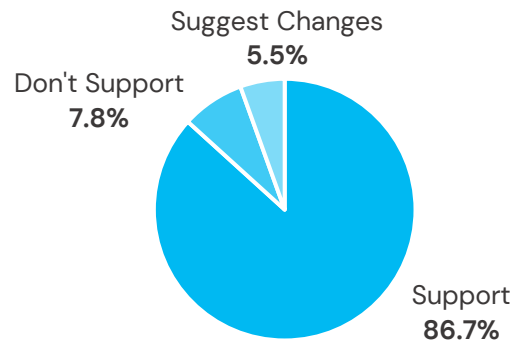
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Promote the Waterfront as Part of our Community Identity

Invest in, promote, and market the waterfront as central to our sense of place and **community identity**



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Recognize First Nations uses of the waterfront
- ▶ Focus on making it great for local residents (which will also make it great for tourists)
- ▶ Concern about over-development (e.g., high-rises) and development limiting public access to waterfront areas
- ▶ Recognize the importance of port (Nanaimo Port Authority) to our economy
- ▶ Increase waterfront experiences (e.g., places to eat, walking routes, viewpoints, art, etc.)
- ▶ Look for unique opportunities to stand out from all the other coastal communities and solidify our waterfront identity (e.g., steam room and sauna at Departure Bay)



*Supporting waterfront stores, restaurants and public gathering spaces are important throughout Nanaimo. We should be able to sit and watch ferries approach Departure Bay from a viewing platform or restaurant there with public washroom access. We should be able to have a restaurant or food truck on the waterfront at Neck Point with public washroom access. We should be able to have a restaurant and walkway near the heliport and cruise ship terminal to view the activity there and to admire the changing tides at the Nanaimo river. We should be able to have a food truck and restaurant at the Nanaimo river near the bungy zone for river goers. We should be able to have public washroom access at public beaches like Blueback beach at the north end of Nanaimo. Making the waterfront accessible and a destination for residents is not only about downtown but also about other areas of our city.*







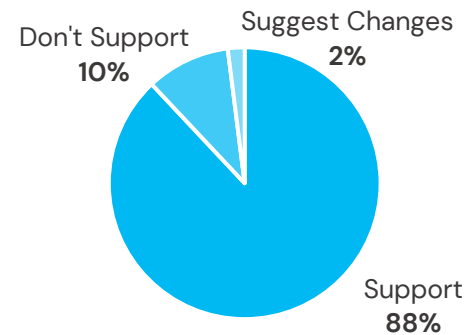
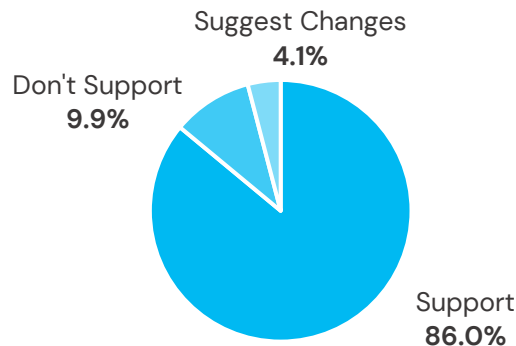
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Recognize Marine-Oriented Employment and Transportation Needs

Recognize **marine-oriented employment and transportation** needs and seek to support and expand them (including a Downtown Nanaimo to Downtown Vancouver foot ferry)



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

### Transportation

- ▶ Mixed opinions on downtown to downtown ferry:
  - » Some support to see this proceed
  - » Some concerns about viability and need (due to a range of other options)
  - » Suggestions to ensure all transportation services are cost effective
- ▶ Improve Protection Island services
- ▶ Encourage low-carbon / low impact transportation options
- ▶ Support marinas as integral to our "Harbour City"

### Industry

- ▶ Concerns about potential industrial impacts on coastal ecosystems
- ▶ Encourage relocation of heavy / industrial activities that are not compatible with the urban environment to Duke Point
- ▶ Seek balance between industrial activity and waterfront enjoyment



*Yes, but do not "industrialize" the waterfront. Find a balance between aesthetically pleasing activities and buildings on the waterfront, but no heavy industry stuff that could destroy the beauty of the waterfront.*





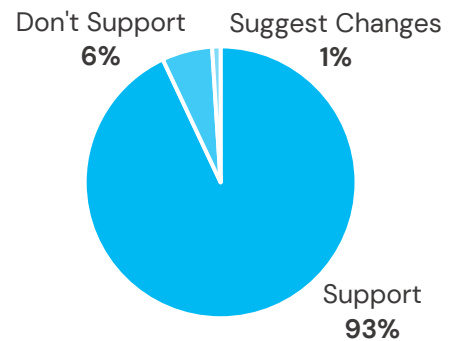
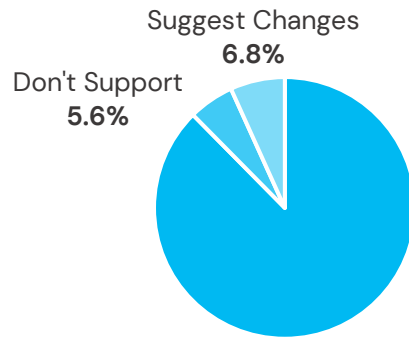
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Encourage Public Access, Tourism, and Commercial Activity along the Waterfront

Encourage **public access, tourism, and commercial activity** along the waterfront between Departure Bay Ferry Terminal and through Downtown



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Focus on making it great for local residents (which will also make it great for tourists)
- ▶ Consider areas outside of Downtown as well (entire waterfront)
- ▶ Prioritize public access / limit privatized waterfront
- ▶ Integrate connectivity (i.e., transit) as part of this experience
- ▶ Ensure quality design and character of waterfront improvements
- ▶ Define desirable commercial activities (e.g., local cafe vs. fast food chain, limit heavy or industrial commercial, encourage seasonal activities)
- ▶ Encourage indoor or outdoor market activities and vendors
- ▶ Consider impacts of commercial activities on neighbouring residential areas (e.g., noise, traffic)
- ▶ Support natural areas
- ▶ Consider safety of the area



*I support commercial activity that encourages and caters to pedestrian and bicycle traffic as well as to human-powered boating such as kayaking, rowing, outrigger, snorkeling, dragon boating.*





## CENTRAL HUB IDENTITY

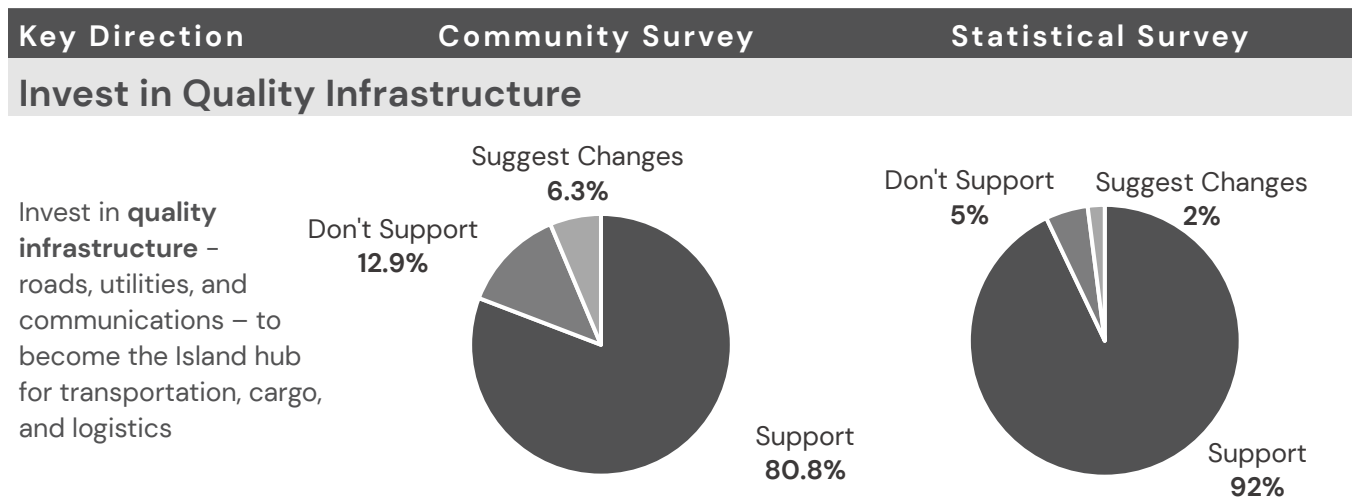
Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### 3.1.11 CENTRAL HUB IDENTITY

The draft City Plan promotes Nanaimo as the heart of Vancouver Island and encourages the enhancement of our tourism, business, and industrial sectors, as well as building on our cultural and heritage identity. Nanaimo will continue to build its relationships with First Nations governments and our local government neighbours to position the mid-island for success.

#### SURVEY RESULTS

Participants were asked about their level of support for 10 key directions related to A Central Hub Identity.



#### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Carefully plan locations for heavy industry:
  - » Focus at Duke Point and existing Industrial areas,
  - » Limit heavy industry Downtown / Departure Bay / within urban parts of the city
  - » Minimize impacts from increased marine traffic
- ▶ Invest in transportation opportunities, including potential for repurposing of the E&N corridor
- ▶ Lobby for senior government investment
- ▶ Minimize noise, light, and pollution impacts
- ▶ Concern that cargo, logistics, etc. is not a forward-looking priority for City investment or identity

- ▶ Focus on green, clean, innovative business
- ▶ Encourage shift to low carbon transportation and logistics



*Any infrastructure investments should take into account how the economy and commercial activities will be changing in the coming decades as we work toward net zero by 2050. We must focus on good, clean jobs rather than development just for the sake of more growth.*





## CENTRAL HUB IDENTITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



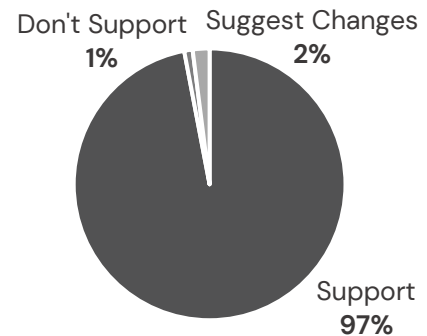
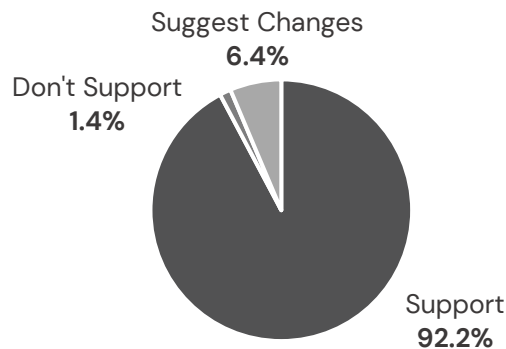
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Support a Health Care Centre of Excellence

Create health care facilities in Nanaimo that attract healthcare professionals and related opportunities (called a **Health Care Centre of Excellence**)



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Lobby for senior governments investment our health care system
- ▶ Recognize that access to primary health care professionals (e.g., family doctor, nurse practitioner) is a basic need that is not being met
- ▶ Seek opportunities to promote and increase attraction of the city to health care professionals
- ▶ Recognize the importance of a healthy environment as part of a holistic approach to health and wellbeing
- ▶ Ensure there is space and opportunity for the health care sector to grow within the city



*We have healthcare facilities already but an inadequate number of health care professionals. I'd support creating more facilities if they could be staffed.*





## CENTRAL HUB IDENTITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

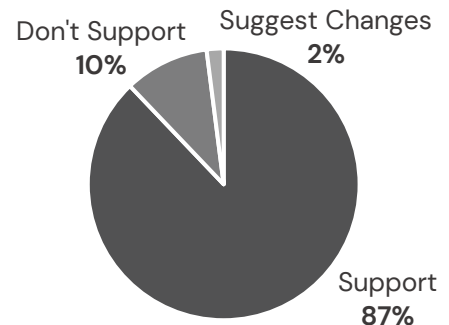
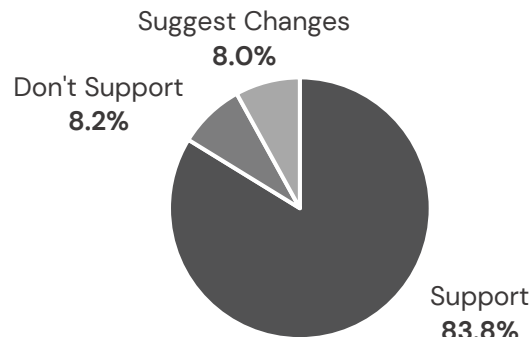
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Continue to Develop our Tourism Potential

Continue to **develop our tourism potential**, building on our natural, waterfront, historical, cultural, and recreational assets and promoting development of Indigenous-led tourism



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Promote the world-class access to nature in and around Nanaimo and ecotourism / low-impact tourism
- ▶ Invest in projects that benefit the community (e.g., culture, arts, and recreation) as these will benefit tourism as well
- ▶ Concerns about potential impacts of too much tourism (e.g., effects on local residents, impacts to natural areas)
- ▶ Support local First Nations developing tourism opportunities
- ▶ Work to make the Downtown and city more attractive to benefit both local experience and tourism
- ▶ Mixed feedback about urgency:
  - » Some suggestions this is a priority
  - » Some suggestions this should be prioritized below other projects (e.g., addressing social challenges and homelessness)



*Nanaimo should promote the natural environment for tourism. Work with what we have and expand on that instead of building things. Hiking, diving, paddling, mountain biking are some of the areas Nanaimo should focus on as that is why people visit here in the first place.*







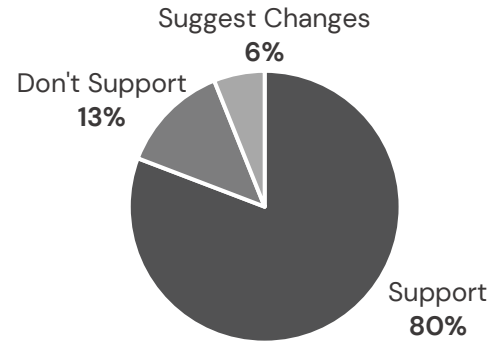
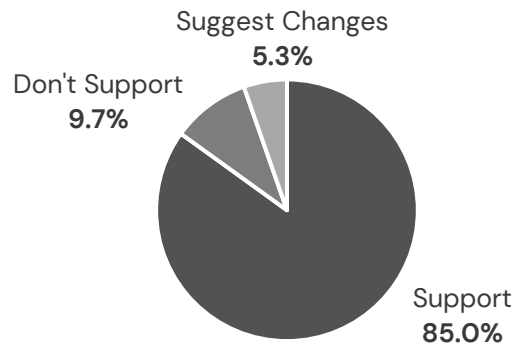
**Key Direction**

**Community Survey**

**Statistical Survey**

**Celebrate and Honour First Nations Culture**

Celebrate and honour  
First Nations culture



**COMMENT THEMES**

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Clarify a focus on local First Nations – Snuneymuxw and Snaw-Naw-As and Mid-Island Métis
- ▶ Recognize First Nations' relationship to the waterfront
- ▶ Provide opportunities to celebrate all cultures and diversity



*More events and education  
at the waterfront to enjoy and  
learn more about the culture.*





## CENTRAL HUB IDENTITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

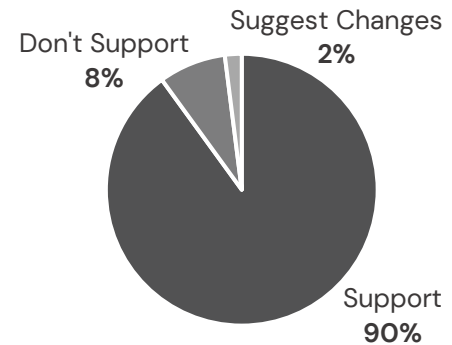
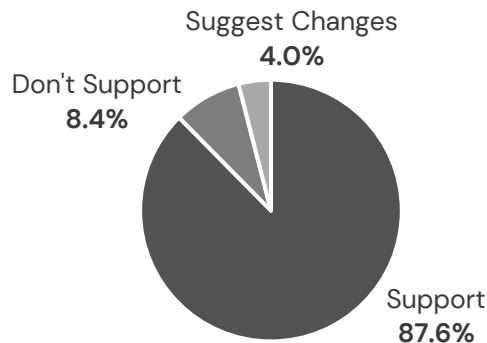
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Make Arts & Culture Visible in the City

**Make arts and culture visible** and accessible throughout the city and support creative groups, individuals, and organizations



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Encourage innovative and participatory arts (e.g., graffiti walls, youth-led opportunities)
- ▶ Expand the definition of art – welcome artists on every level, from all cultures, of all types
- ▶ Collaborate with VIU
- ▶ Increase activities, festivals, and opportunities for people to experience arts and culture together
- ▶ Make it affordable for all to enjoy arts and culture experiences
- ▶ Incentivize addition of collaborative creative spaces for culture and arts
- ▶ Market arts and culture to local residents to encourage participation and support
- ▶ Get artists involved in implanting ideas throughout the city



*I support this concept, provided it is not just for those who have the funds for cultural events. Arts and culture must be affordable for everyone.*





## CENTRAL HUB IDENTITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



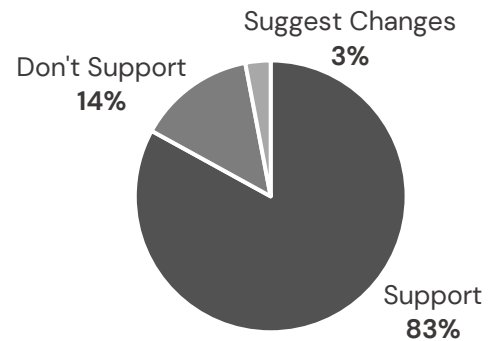
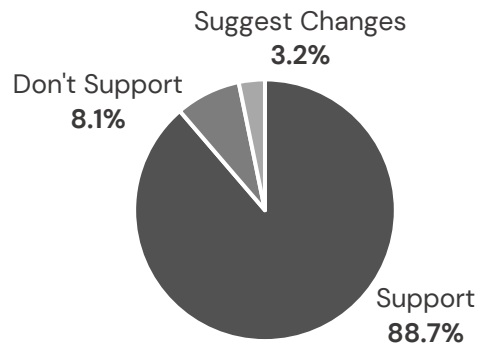
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Work with First Nations to Protect Archaeological Features

Work with First Nations to  
**protect archaeological  
features**



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Consider how to do this while still moving development applications forward in a timely manner
- ▶ Consider sharing more information about these features and how they're being protected (where appropriate)



*As long as the designation  
of 'archaeological features'  
is well studied.*





## CENTRAL HUB IDENTITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

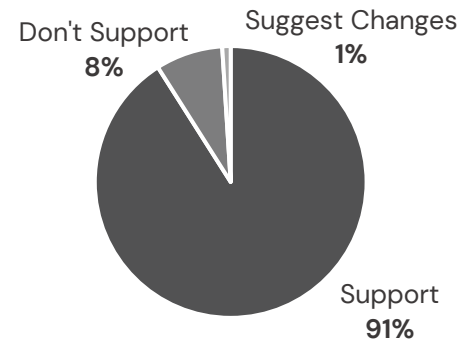
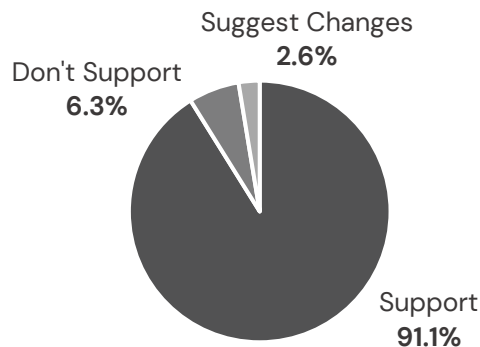
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Continue a Heritage Conservation Program

Continue our **Heritage Conservation Program** to protect heritage values while increasing public awareness, appreciation, and understanding



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Share more stories about how heritage resources came to be (through the eyes of all cultures)
- ▶ Promote natural heritage
- ▶ Integrate flexibility that recognizes heritage while not obstructing positive infill and development
- ▶ Involve First Nations in heritage efforts



*Heritage conservation should include the history of why things are the way they are, not just that something exists or that something happened...*





## CENTRAL HUB IDENTITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey



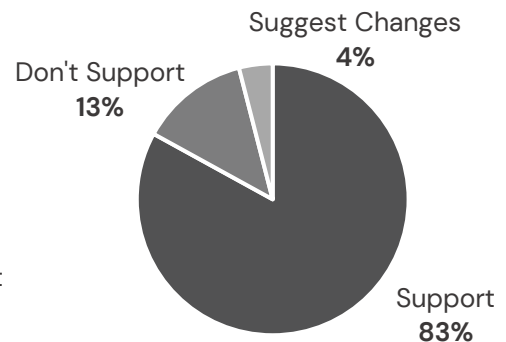
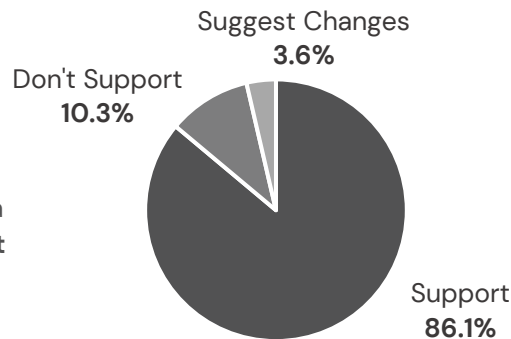
### Key Direction

### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Integrate Public Art into the Community

Integrate **public art** into the experience of the community and encourage and support a broad range of **public art projects and programs**



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Find cost effective ways to fund art projects (e.g., grants, private development)
- ▶ Consider environmental sustainability in projects
- ▶ Encourage and support art created by equity-deserving artists
- ▶ Encourage variety in art – different scales, local to international, different cultures
- ▶ Find ways to involve leaders in the arts and culture community
- ▶ Encourage arts programming and groups
- ▶ Ask for public input on types of art in the City



*Ensure public art is sustainable environmentally.*







## CENTRAL HUB IDENTITY

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### Key Direction

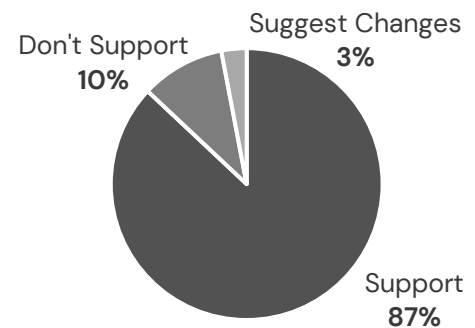
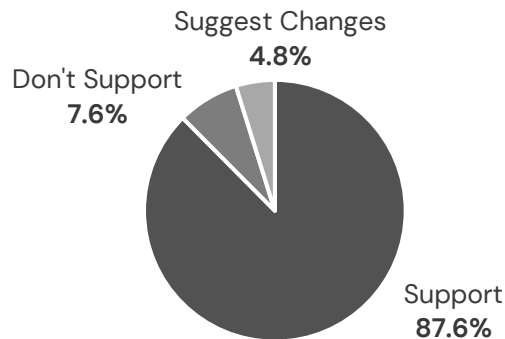
### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Create Opportunities for Public Gathering and Celebration

Create opportunities for **public gathering and celebration**, including:

- » **Working with First Nations to co-host** sporting and cultural events,
- » **Adding spaces** that support events, and
- » Encouraging **festivals, celebrations, and sporting events** in Nanaimo.



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Play a supporting role – encourage and support groups and organizations to lead events
- ▶ Work to return activities happening pre-pandemic
- ▶ Mixed feedback about scale of events:
  - » Some preference to host larger events (and have infrastructure to support these – e.g., event centre)
  - » Some preference to focus on smaller-scale activities (focus on families, community)
- ▶ Promote and support events that are already happening
- ▶ Create variety in event spaces – that can support events and celebrations of different scales
- ▶ Focus on improving use of existing event spaces (prior to adding new ones)
- ▶ Promote inclusivity for all



*Adding spaces is great, but the spaces to be added should support diversity in event and festival formats.*





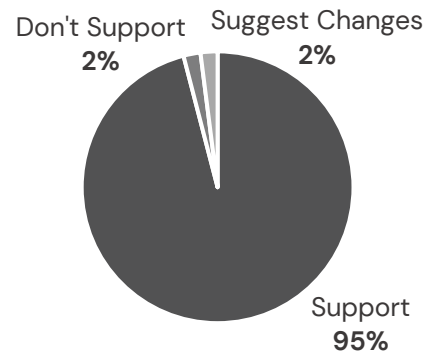
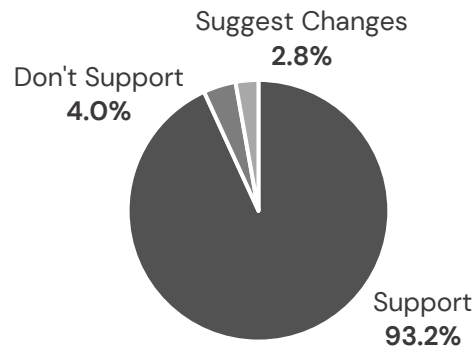
**Key Direction**

**Community Survey**

**Statistical Survey**

**Accelerate Remediation and Adaptive Re-use of Brownfield Sites**

Accelerate **remediation, rehabilitation, and adaptive re-use** of brownfield sites (places with previous contamination such as former gas stations) to improve social, environmental, and economic health in our community



**COMMENT THEMES**

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Costs should be borne by the responsible party
- ▶ Consider potential tools to help speed these processes (e.g., Development Corporation)
- ▶ Encourage unused spaces in the Downtown to redevelop more quickly



*I do support this initiative, but with the caveat that the polluter should pay first and foremost. If the City is able to accelerate a property owner's rehabilitative response to spills or pollution, that is appropriate.*



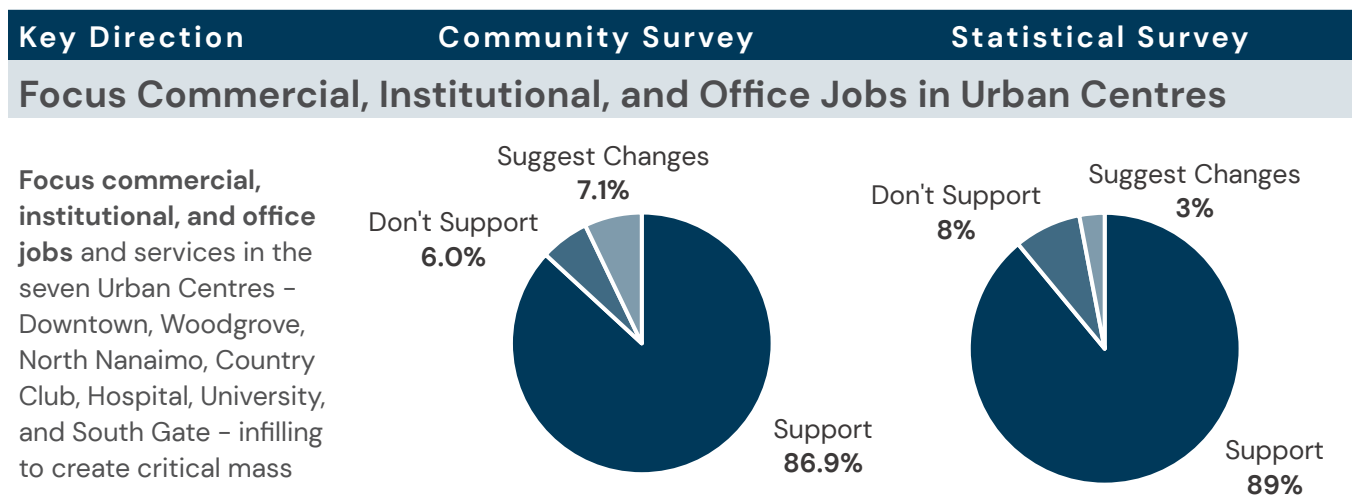


### 3.1.12 GREAT BUSINESSES & JOBS

City Plan seeks to build a critical mass of jobs and services in thriving Urban Centres and Corridors, while protecting areas for industry. The plan integrates the work of the 2020 Economic Development Strategy, identifying how the City can invest in and support its people, businesses, institutions, non-profits, and the emerging technology sector to attract good jobs and prosperity to the community.

#### SURVEY RESULTS

Participants were asked about their level of support for 7 key directions related to Great Businesses & Jobs.



#### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Mixed feedback on Downtown priority:
  - » Some suggestions that Downtown should be prioritized over other Centres for business growth
  - » Some suggestions that Downtown should not be the focus in the short-term
- ▶ Encourage businesses that offer good, well-paying jobs
- ▶ Locate jobs to reduce commuting distance
- ▶ Promote each Centre having a “focus” to guide programming
- ▶ Consider how work-from-home and online growth will affect Centres and housing
- ▶ Ensure there is focus to support critical mass (i.e., we do not spread things too thin)



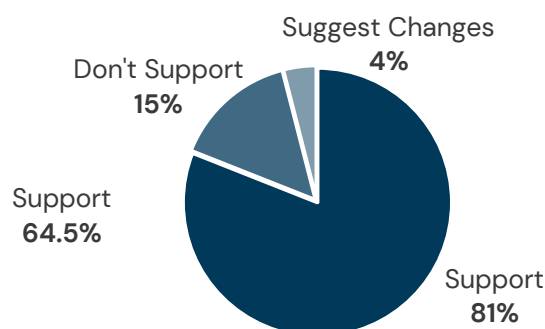
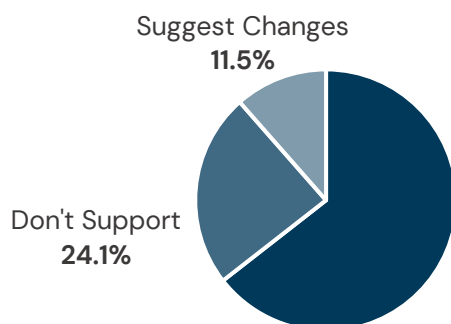
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Increase and Protect Industrial Lands

**Increase** the land available for industrial uses, and work to **protect industrial lands** for industry by locating other uses like office, retail, and recreation into other parts of the city (e.g. Centres and Corridors)



**NOTE:** The above question received a higher degree of mixed feedback from participants. An analysis of qualitative feedback from both surveys is summarized on the next page to further understand key themes behind why people indicated they “Don’t Support” or “Suggest Changes” related to this direction.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

Theme	# References	% Respondents
<b>Industrial Lands – Support for Increasing and Protecting</b>	<b>45</b>	
General support for expanding lands in city limit to provide a tax base for community amenities and high-quality jobs	25	20%
General support for the importance of industrial land but suggestions to limit impacts in specific areas (e.g., residential, green space) and focus on key areas (e.g., Duke Point)	20	16%
<b>Industrial Lands – Support for Maintaining Existing Lands</b>	<b>25</b>	
Use existing lands more efficiently by redesigning lands to be more functional, integrated, and attractive	10	8%
Focus on infilling existing industrial areas (e.g., waterfront, South, highway, vacant lots) or areas that provide employment	8	7%
Limit impacts (including noise and light pollution)	7	6%

(Continued on next page)



## GREAT BUSINESSES & JOBS

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

Theme	# References	% Respondents
<b>Industrial Lands – Concerns about Increasing and Protecting</b>	<b>25</b>	
Generally limit industrial land within city limits to protect land for other uses (e.g., housing, parks, heritage, natural areas) / concerns that industrial expansion conflicts with Doughnut Economics	22	18%
Concern that any type of industry can be sustainable, functional, and cost effective	3	2%
<b>Encouragement for Improved Industrial Business Practices</b>	<b>77</b>	
Support for encouraging types of industries that are sustainable, low-carbon, use alternative energy, and provide greener jobs	21	17%
General support for the city and to be a leader in the region for integrated networks that use innovative technology for materials production, incineration, heat generation, etc.	19	16%
Support for business development through incentives, training, and investment to leverage the city's unique assets and provide jobs	14	11%
Support for stronger environmental protection, encouraging responsible practices through regulation and no net loss habitat	11	9%
Support for more mixed-use industrial areas to diversify economy and support light industry, high-tech, R&D (e.g., Boxwood)	9	7%
Other	3	2%
Total References	172	
Total Responses	122	

The total number of references is not equal to the total number of responses because responses are coded into more than one category.

Total % is not equal to 100 due to multi-coding (each response was coded into between 1 and 4 categories).-





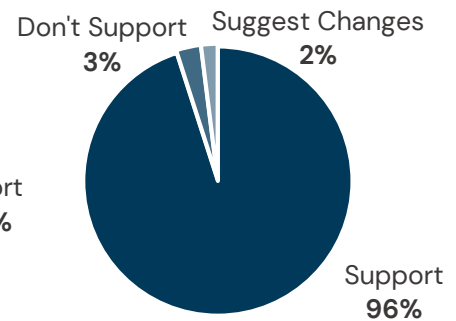
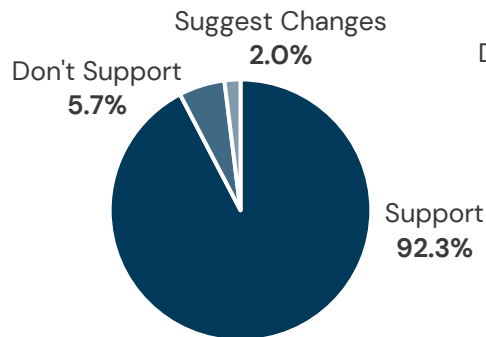
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Encourage and Support Eco-Industrial Networks

Encourage and support creation of industrial networks that share energy, resource uses, and waste resources (e.g. waste heat from one industry being used by another) called **Eco-Industrial Networks**



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Focus on large-scale industrial opportunities
- ▶ Increase requirements for moving this forward
- ▶ Identify innovations and look at examples from successful industrial areas
- ▶ Concerns about cost and challenges to implement



*Would like to see this required, not just encouraged and supported.*





# GREAT BUSINESSES & JOBS

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

## Key Direction

## Community Survey

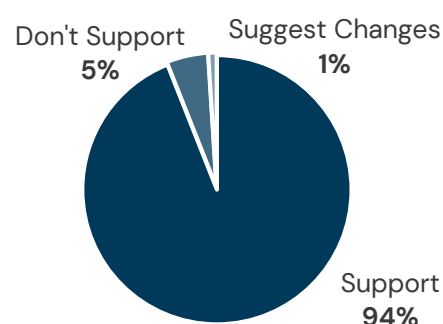
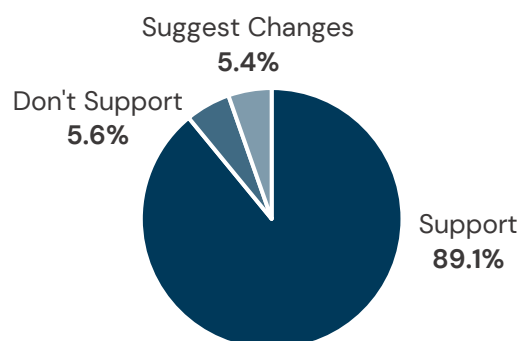
## Statistical Survey

### Encourage Investment in People & the Environment

#### Encourage investment

in our people and our environment by:

- » Integrating **education and training opportunities** with Nanaimo's industry sectors to build a skilled workforce and retain youth,
- » Increasing employment and training for **marginalized groups**, and
- » Supporting "low-carbon" and **sustainable businesses**.



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Prioritize sustainable businesses
- ▶ Collaborate with and encourage others (Province, VIU, private industry) to provide opportunities
- ▶ Consider who "marginalized" groups include and provide opportunity equitably
- ▶ Identify opportunities to shift existing business / industry that are less environmentally-sustainable into eco-industry
- ▶ Encourage exploration of emerging green technology (e.g., geothermal energy)
- ▶ Encourage businesses that reduce reliance on imported goods



*Yes – I think VIU can help with this one too and more of a relationship can be realized and promoted.*





## Key Direction

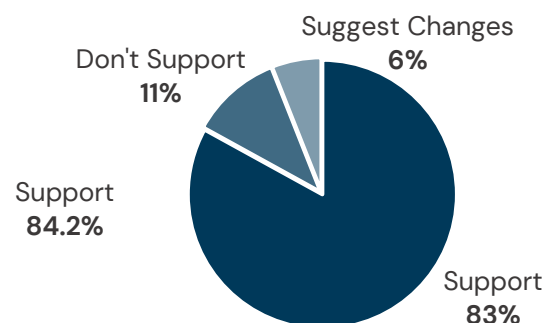
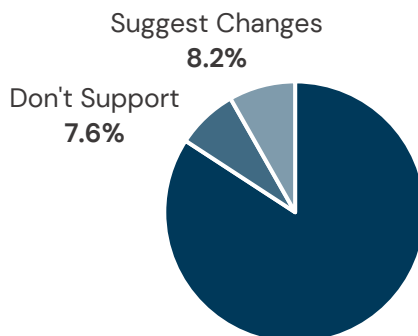
## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Attract New Businesses to Nanaimo

**Attract new businesses** to Nanaimo by:

- » Continuing to support a **business-friendly environment**, and
- » **Collaborating with First Nations** to identify joint-action economic development opportunities.



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Define what business-friendly means, with a focus on attracting key types of businesses (e.g., green, local, socially just, those providing well-paying jobs, emerging economy)
- ▶ Market the benefits of Nanaimo to businesses
- ▶ Recognize the link between business development and funding City services
- ▶ Consider ways the City can create favourable business conditions (e.g., tax incentives, approvals processes, affordable housing, improved transportation linkages)
- ▶ Concerns about potential impacts of "big" business on the city
- ▶ Balance business and citizen needs
- ▶ Encourage a "new" economy that embraces technology and evolve outdated business practices



*Would like to see more qualifiers on what business-friendly means, what kinds of businesses? Want to see local, independent, culturally appropriate social and environmentally-just businesses prioritized.*





## GREAT BUSINESSES & JOBS

Community Survey & Statistical Survey

### Key Direction

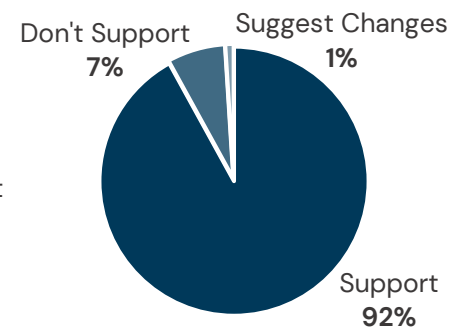
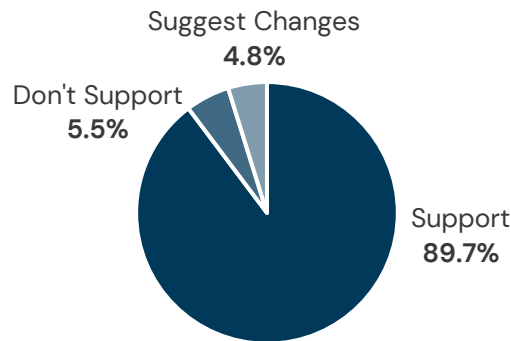
### Community Survey

### Statistical Survey

## Support Growth in the Innovation and Technology Sector

Support growth in the **Innovation & Technology** sector by:

- » Building robust **internet connectivity**, and
- » Leveraging the **technology sector** to help solve urban challenges and strengthen growth of other sectors of the economy



### COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Increase equity in access to internet
- ▶ Concerns about emerging technologies and sector (e.g., 5G, censorship on social media)
- ▶ Encourage companies that supply jobs that are attractive to families
- ▶ Work with universities to identify combined opportunities to increase tech centre presence
- ▶ Seek to support business longevity and ongoing success



*Provide programming, collaboration opportunities, engagement and incentives to leverage 'technology' to help solve urban challenges, enable every citizen access to purpose-driven work in line with their skills and experiences, and aim for a 0% business failure and 100% business transition between multiple generations.*





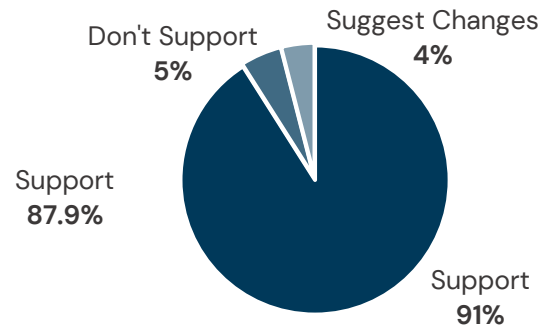
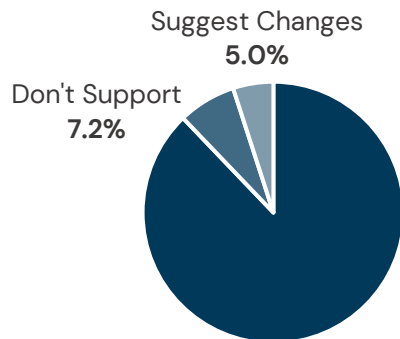
## Key Direction

## Community Survey

## Statistical Survey

### Build our Reputation and Identity

Build Nanaimo's **reputation and identity** by celebrating our assets, investing strategically, and promoting the city as a destination, regional hub, and great place to invest



## COMMENT THEMES

Participants shared written comments to clarify their response or add further suggestions. The following are commonly noted themes from the comments.

- ▶ Focus economic development research and communications to clearly demonstrate why people should choose Nanaimo
- ▶ Focus on addressing key issues (e.g., housing affordability, homelessness, GHG emissions reduction) and reputation will follow
- ▶ Focus on protecting existing assets (e.g., nature, historical Downtown)
- ▶ Ensure our services (e.g., housing, infrastructure) keep pace with economic growth
- ▶ Determine Nanaimo's future "identity"
- ▶ Work within our boundaries (i.e., avoid sprawl)
- ▶ Identify opportunities to set Nanaimo apart



*Easily said. Brochures won't accomplish this. Business acumen backed by solid business cases that demonstrate tangible, measurable advantages are required to convince someone to invest millions in our community...*









## 3.2 DISCUSSIONS & COMMENTS



[Read this page of highlights for a quick overview of this section.](#)  
[View the pages that follow to find more details.](#)

### HIGHLIGHTS

Between March 4 and April 8, 2022, REIMAGINE NANAIMO hosted events with those interested in learning more about key directions in the draft City Plan and also accepted feedback and comments via written input. Participants in the process were invited to ask questions about their areas of interest and share their comments and suggestions for improvements.

### WHAT WERE COMMON THEMES?

Participants shared broad ideas across all aspects of the draft City Plan, ranging from general suggestions to detailed recommendations on specific policies. Below are a few of the most common areas of feedback, though discussions covered a broad range of topics.

#### DOWNTOWN

- ▶ support for embracing its role as Nanaimo's Primary Urban Centre
- ▶ desire to accelerate actions to support improvements in safety and address social challenges

#### GREEN APPROACH

- ▶ desire to accelerate decisive actions that will support real progress towards GHG emissions reduction targets
- ▶ interest in further exploring / defining ecological values and ensuring these are protected for the future

#### LAND USE DIRECTIONS

- ▶ suggestions to consider further how to make small-scale commercial accessible throughout all areas and neighbourhoods
- ▶ suggestions for Land Use designation refinements within the Newcastle neighbourhood

#### SUPPORTIVE CITY

- ▶ desire for creation of integrated care opportunities to increase support for vulnerable community members
- ▶ support for emergency preparation and enabling residents to become more prepared

#### NEIGHBOURHOODS

- ▶ support for ongoing neighbourhood engagement
- ▶ suggestions to refine mapping to better articulate neighbourhood boundaries
- ▶ desire for neighbourhood plans to continue to be considered in development applications

#### CITY LIVING

- ▶ support for focusing growth (with some suggestions to further limit sprawl)
- ▶ concerns about 2-storey minimums in Centres limiting some opportunities
- ▶ desire for infrastructure (mobility, parks, rec services) to keep pace with growth



## MEETINGS & EVENTS

Overview

### PARTICIPATION

Meeting	Date	# Participants
<b>GROUP WORKSHOPS</b>		
Available to groups wishing to learn more about the draft plan and discuss with the project team.		
VIU Business-Government Relations Course	Wednesday, February 9	5
Mayor's Leader Table	Friday, March 4	20
YES Committee	Wednesday, March 9	14
Neighbourhood Network Meeting	Wednesday, March 9	8
Brechin Neighbourhood Association	Wednesday, March 16	12
Stephenson Point Neighbourhood Association	Friday, March 18	6
Newcastle Neighbourhood Association	Friday, March 18	4
VIU Sustainable Cities	Monday, March 21	20
Chamber of Commerce Board	Wednesday, March 30	10
Government Stakeholders	Tuesday, April 5	3
Chase River Neighbourhood Association & South End Community Association	Tuesday, April 5	4
VIREB (Vancouver Island Real Estate Board)	Tuesday, April 5	70
Nanaimo Climate Action Club	Tuesday, April 5	6
Development Community	Thursday, April 7	30
Chamber of Commerce Membership	Friday, April 8	16
<b>PUBLIC EVENTS</b>		
Open to all wanting to view key information and discuss with the project team.		
Pop-ups at the Maple Sugar Festival	Saturday, March 26 & Sunday, March 27	55
Community Information Session	Tuesday, March 29	46

### ENGAGEMENT WITH FIRST NATIONS GOVERNMENTS

Ongoing discussions with First Nations Governments are taking place separately.

### GOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDER REFERRALS

In addition to engagement with the community, government and organizational stakeholders were referred the draft *City Plan – Nanaimo Reimagined* document and invited to share feedback. Referrals were sent 30 agencies.



## DISCUSSION THEMES

Common Themes



### COMMON THEMES

Participants shared their thoughts and feedback through discussions during meeting and events and in written comments. Below is a summary of themes from these inputs.



#### CITY LIVING

- ▶ Increase walkability Downtown (and in all parts of the city)
- ▶ Concerns about potential for large-format retail impacting Downtown character
- ▶ Hasten clean-up of old or abandoned properties
- ▶ Consider supporting some commercial in most land use areas, focused on uses that enrich neighbourhoods
- ▶ Concerns about two-storey minimums slowing potential redevelopment in the short-term
- ▶ Prioritize local business development
- ▶ Review future projects with health and happiness as criteria



#### LIVABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

- ▶ Continue to use existing Neighbourhood Plans in the review of development applications
- ▶ Refine mapping related to Neighbourhoods, including a Neighbourhood Network Map and the relationship to Census Tracts
- ▶ Increase density in residential areas
- ▶ Manage on-street parking
- ▶ Increase affordable housing options (e.g., co-ops)
- ▶ Encourage renovation of character homes
- ▶ Support density transfer where large green spaces or community amenities are provided
- ▶ Add traffic calming on busy streets (e.g., Stewart Avenue)
- ▶ Better define what Neighbourhoods are
- ▶ Consider adjustments to support more flexibility in Semi-rural Neighbourhoods



#### A THRIVING & CREATIVE DOWNTOWN

- ▶ Prioritize actions and make progress to improve Downtown
- ▶ Consider pedestrian-only streets (e.g., Front / Commercial Streets)
- ▶ Consider promoting coal-mining history (tourism)
- ▶ Concerns about too much focus on / investment in Downtown
- ▶ Support local businesses
- ▶ Encourage events and celebrations
- ▶ Prioritize public safety
- ▶ Encourage abandoned sites to redevelop
- ▶ Reinforce Terminal Avenue as the gateway to Downtown and prioritize its redevelopment (Terminal Nicol Re-Imagined)
- ▶ Support opportunities for flexibility in application of codes and policies to attract residents and businesses
- ▶ Encourage renewal and maintenance of remaining heritage assets
- ▶ Cannot rely fully on City for success (needs participation of property owners)



## DISCUSSION THEMES

Common Themes



### MOBILITY CHOICE

- ▶ Prioritize cycling on quieter streets for comfort (less noise and pollution, safer)
- ▶ Add e-bike charging in parks and commercial destinations (e.g., coffee shops)
- ▶ Encourage realization of a downtown to downtown ferry as a key transportation asset
- ▶ Consider how funding for mobility projects can be shared / managed



### AFFORDABLE CITY

- ▶ Ensure policies support creation of affordable units for both rent and purchase
- ▶ Further define affordable and supportive housing (especially in context of rapidly increasing prices)
- ▶ Foster food production opportunities throughout the city (on public and private lands)
- ▶ Help foster supportive neighbourhoods
- ▶ Foster a community that is connected to nature



### A SUPPORTIVE CITY

- ▶ Prioritize public safety and reduction of crime and people experiencing homelessness
- ▶ Add clean, safe services for people experiencing homelessness (e.g., showers, laundry, charging stations, social gathering space)
- ▶ Develop clear actions and track progress
- ▶ Increase CPTED requirements and require development to demonstrate how they are met
- ▶ Increase action-oriented policies around safety (e.g., community safety audits, enhancements to Block Watch, making crime stats accessible, implementing substance abuse treatment programs, establishing a public safety committee, etc.)
- ▶ Develop an integrated care opportunities that bring together harm reduction, mental health, employment, and other services
- ▶ Recognize extreme heat as a significant emergency event
- ▶ Prioritize enabling residents to prepare themselves for potential emergencies



### INCLUSIVE & EQUITABLE

- ▶ Support resources for newcomers to the city
- ▶ Extend free transit opportunities
- ▶ Recognize the importance of pets to people's health and wellbeing
- ▶ Continue to build opportunity for residents to learn about Reconciliation and how we can move forward together
- ▶ Connect and listen to youth priorities
- ▶ Ensure elders are honoured and avoid the stigma of ageism



### ACCESS TO NATURE & OUTDOOR RECREATION

- ▶ Document and analyze changes in the tree canopy over time
- ▶ Increase access to and amenities at viewpoints, parks, and trails
- ▶ Add trees along transportation corridors (e.g., Island Highway)
- ▶ Manage impacts from off-road vehicle use in sensitive areas (e.g., Cable Bay, Harewood Plains)
- ▶ Consider how to measure sufficiency of supply of parks and open space services as growth occurs





## DISCUSSION THEMES

Common Themes



### A GREEN APPROACH

- ▶ Be more ambitious in climate approaches (hasten targets)
- ▶ Set, monitor, and do all possible to reach targets
- ▶ Increase communication and reporting on emissions reduction
- ▶ Prioritize non-carbon heating options (e.g., heat pumps) / reduce or eliminate reliance on gas as quickly as possible
- ▶ Enhance watercourses and support conversion of hard storm infrastructure to a more natural state
- ▶ Ensure equity in green approaches
- ▶ Consider how to reduce impacts of noise (on nature, people)
- ▶ Seek innovation to rejuvenate our biosystem while adding population
- ▶ Protect all ecologically sensitive areas (e.g., Garry oak, vernal pools, coastal bluffs, etc.) not only forests
- ▶ Maintain affordable services
- ▶ Improve waste management
- ▶ Encourage dark skies
- ▶ Prioritize performance of buildings (over aesthetics)
- ▶ Further define carbon sequestration
- ▶ Consider idling regulations, public EV infrastructure, education, limited expansion of air travel to reduce transportation impacts



### A WATERFRONT IDENTITY

- ▶ Balance public and private investment
- ▶ Prioritize continuation of the Waterfront Walkway
- ▶ Protect undeveloped / natural parts of the harbour
- ▶ Focus on improving safety and comfort for all users



### CENTRAL HUB IDENTITY

- ▶ Recognize how safety affects the identity of the community
- ▶ Lobby the Province to increase health care
- ▶ Work with First Nations to support cultural places and celebrations
- ▶ Establish and promote the city's commitment to a sustainable path forward (Doughnut Economics)
- ▶ Remove potential barriers related to brownfield development
- ▶ Promote Nanaimo as a leading mid-sized city



### GREAT BUSINESSES & JOBS

- ▶ Prioritize green jobs, businesses, and industry
- ▶ Build transportation connectivity to support business development (e.g., foot passenger ferry)
- ▶ Ensure local businesses have support to succeed
- ▶ Pursue leadership in transportation evolution (e.g., automation, alternate fuel sources, etc.)
- ▶ Link economic growth to the ecological ceiling (Doughnut Economics)
- ▶ Encourage science, ocean, tech centre opportunities

## MAPPING THEMES




In addition to comments on policies, some participants shared geographical feedback on preliminary City Plan mapping at events, online, or through written comments. The following maps record a summary of themes from these inputs.

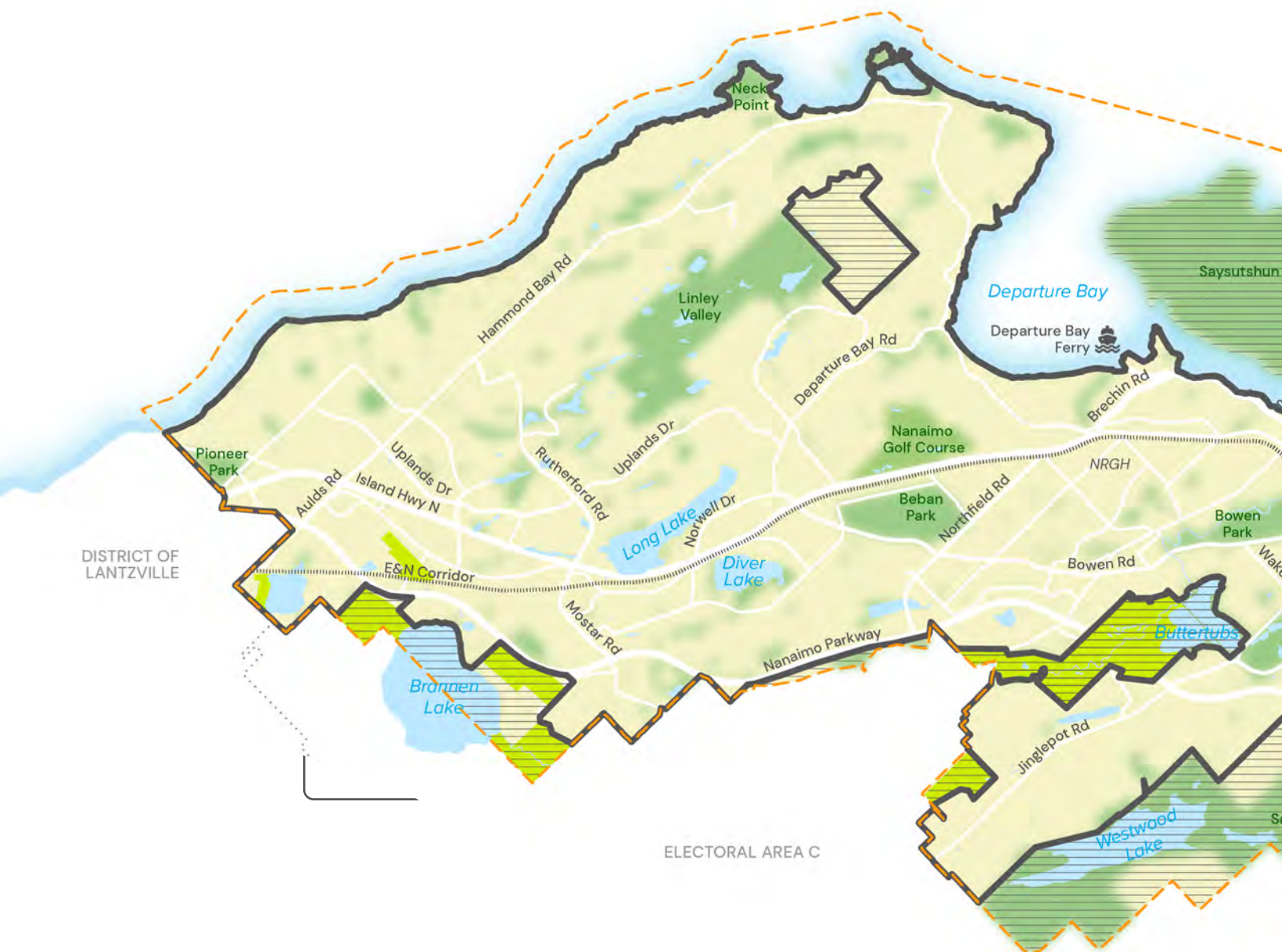


## GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Community Comments on Mapping – Events, Online, Written Submissions

### LEGEND

- City Boundary
- Urban Containment Boundary (UCB)
-  Lands Outside the UCB
-  Agricultural Land Reserve
-  Parks & Open Space

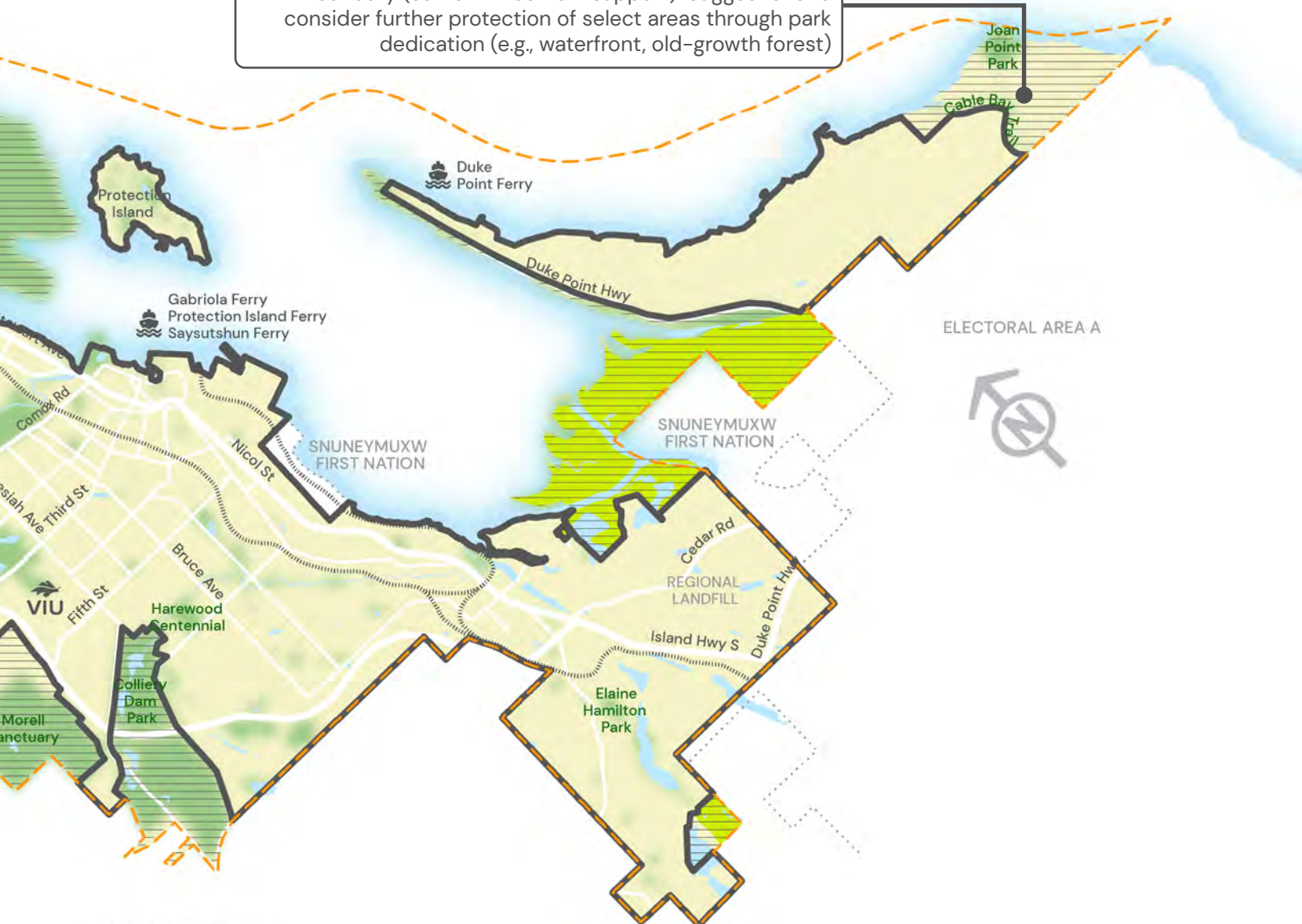


## GENERAL COMMENTS

Location-specific comments noted on the map

- ▶ Balance growth with protecting parks and green spaces (concerns about loss of treed green spaces within the growth area)
- ▶ Need to account for climate change in growth
- ▶ Mandate greener new development
- ▶ Need to commit to growth containment and resist pressure for ALR removal, leapfrog development, or unsustainable, low-density outward growth
- ▶ Ensure that infrastructure is renewed to support existing development and future infill
- ▶ Consider reinforcing the Urban Containment Boundary with a greenbelt to constrain growth
- ▶ All growth should be needs to be thoughtful with a commitment to creating community, green space, and character

General public support for shifting the Urban Containment Boundary (some limited non-support). Suggestions to consider further protection of select areas through park dedication (e.g., waterfront, old-growth forest)





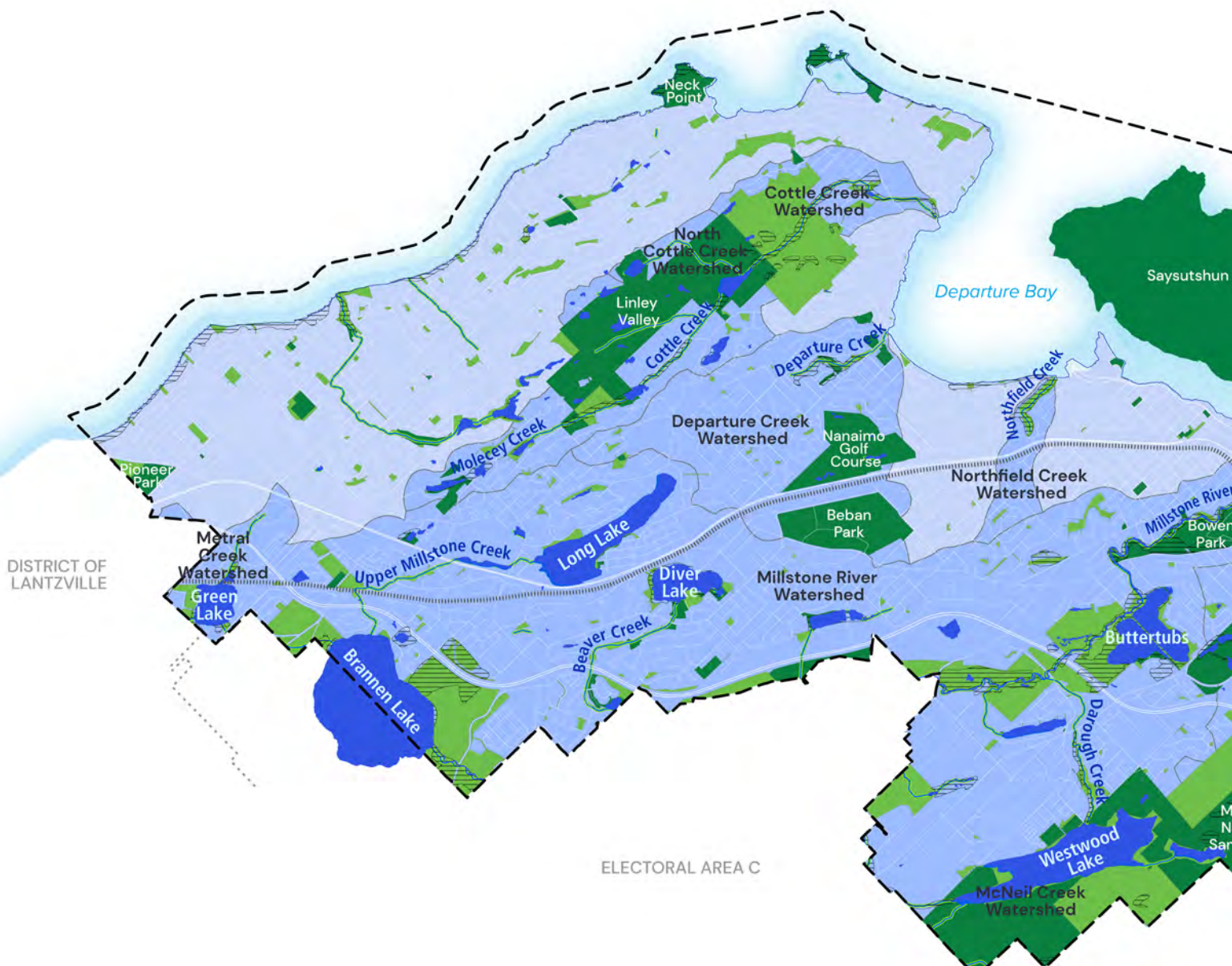


# BLUE & GREEN NETWORK

Community Comments on Mapping – Events, Online, Written Submissions

## LEGEND

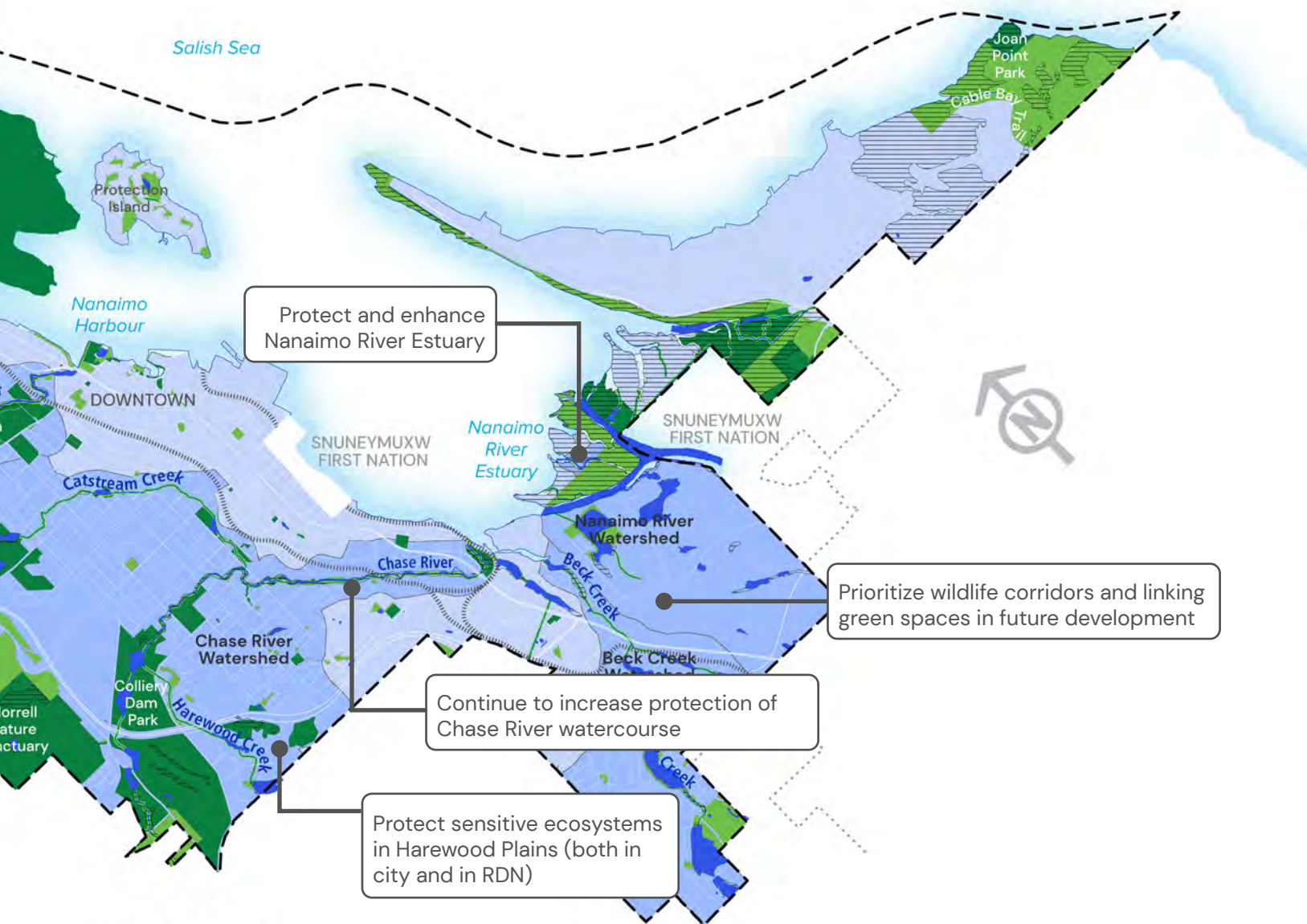
- City Boundary
- Piped Systems
- Surface Streams
- Lakes
- Watercourses
- Harbour & Foreshore
- Dispersed Areas



## GENERAL COMMENTS

Location-specific comments noted on the map

- ▶ Seek new opportunities for energy (e.g., tidal energy)
- ▶ Identify riparian encroachments and consider future acquisition for ecological restoration
- ▶ Maintain and enhance connectivity between significant green spaces (e.g., older forests, parks, sensitive ecosystems, etc.)
- ▶ Strengthen development regulations / standards to protect and restore natural and treed areas in future development
- ▶ Increase buffers and protection around sensitive areas (e.g., wetlands, watercourses, riparian areas)
- ▶ Protect sensitive spaces from human use (i.e., no access areas)
- ▶ Increase information about the value of natural areas within the city

















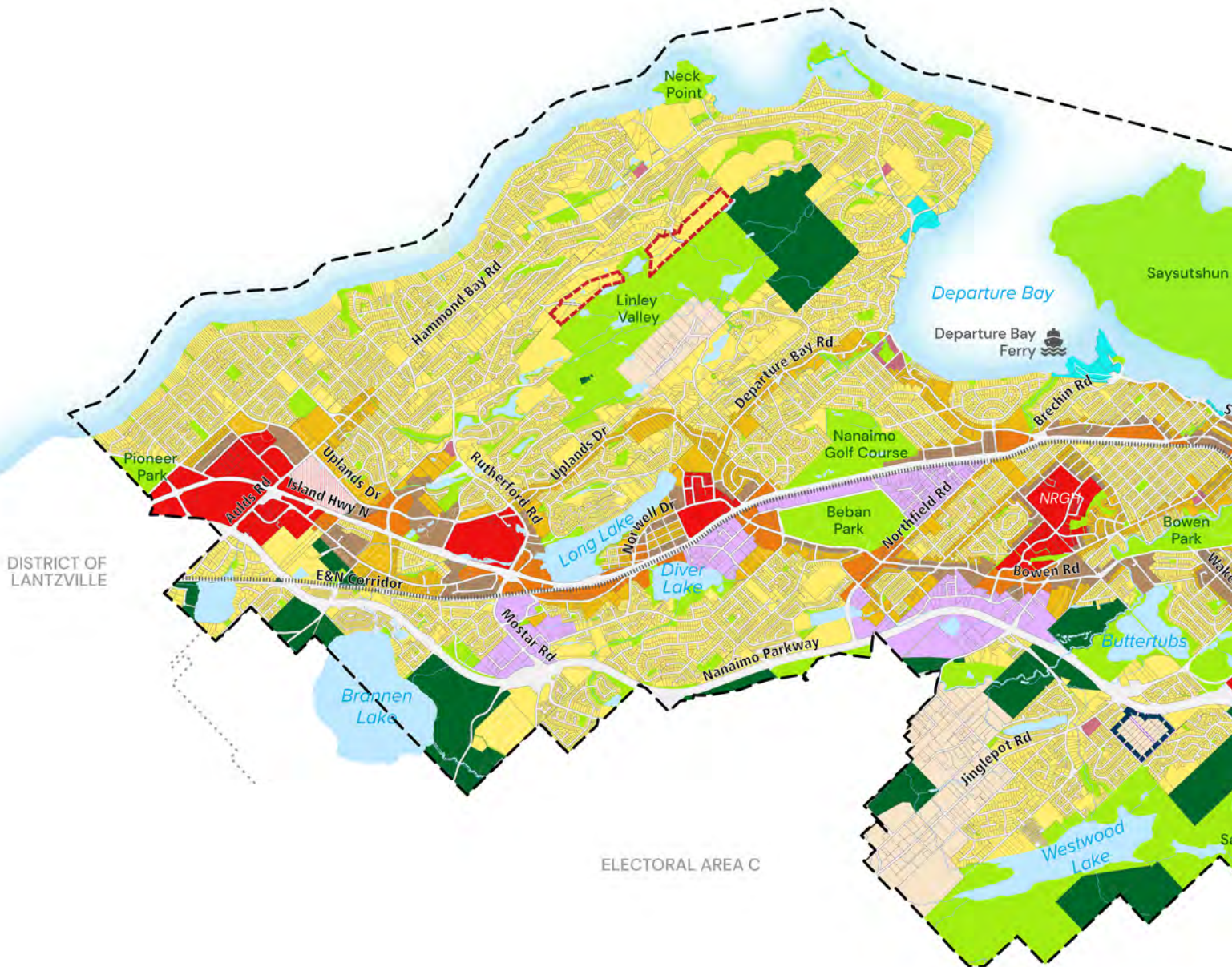


# LAND USE PLAN

Community Comments on Mapping – Events, Online, Written Submissions

## LEGEND

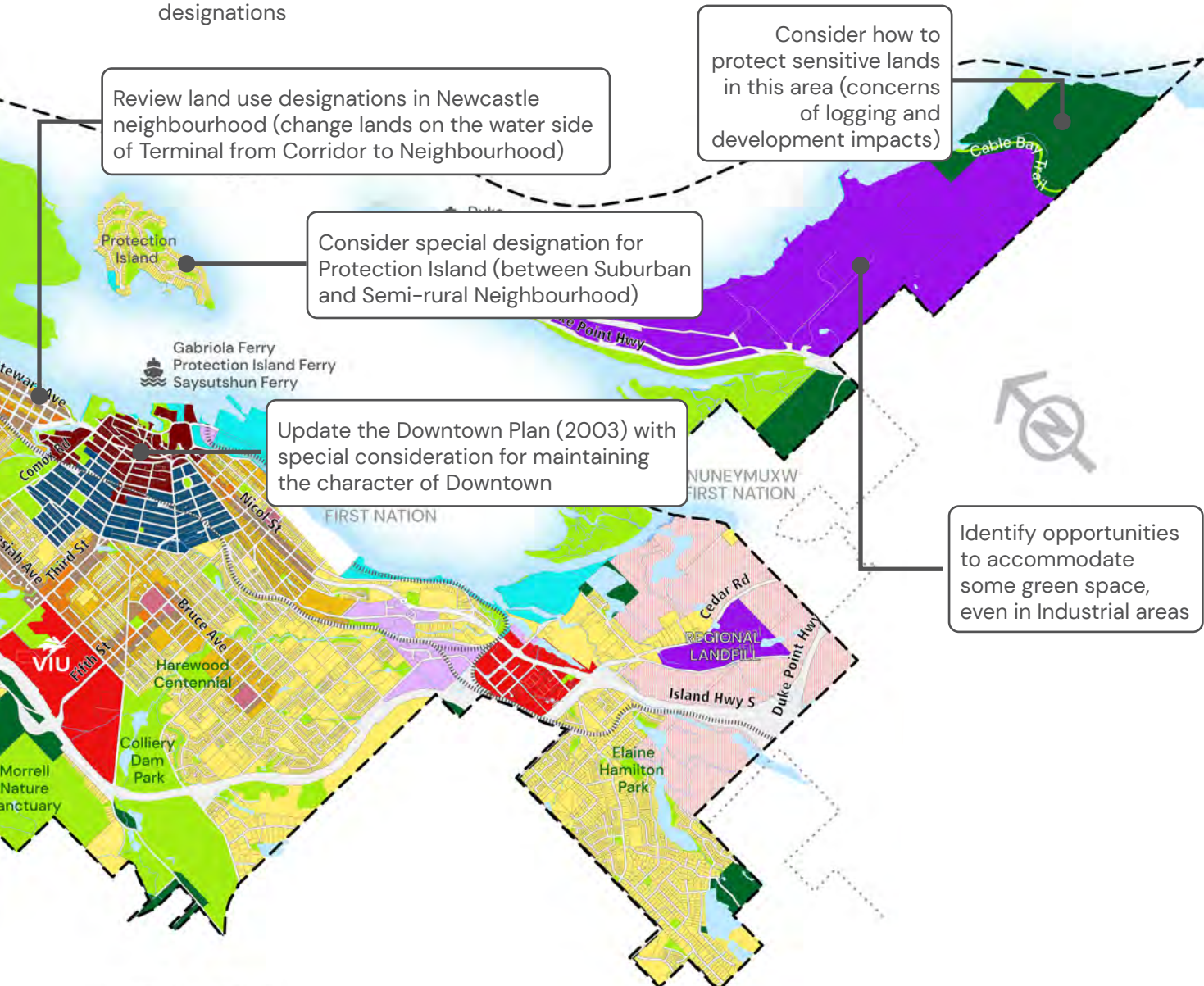
- |   |                        |   |   |
|---|------------------------|---|---|
| -----   | City Boundary          |  | Waterfront                              |
|  | Primary Urban Centre   |  | Parks & Open Spaces                     |
|  | Secondary Urban Centre |  | Resource Management                     |
|  | Neighbourhood Centre   |  | Special Servicing Area                  |
|  | Mixed-Use Corridor     |  | Special Study Area                      |
|  | Residential Corridor   |  | Active Application                      |
|  | Neighbourhood          |   | Major ongoing OCP Amendment Application |



## GENERAL COMMENTS

Location-specific comments noted on the map

- ▶ Focus growth in Centres and resist pressures for development that does not align with the plan
- ▶ Concerns about too much Suburban Neighbourhood continuing to contribute to vehicular travel (consider more Neighbourhood land use)
- ▶ Desire to see green spaces woven through all parts of the community, including industrial areas
- ▶ Consider increasing flexibility for limited commercial uses in Residential Corridor designations
- ▶ Consider prioritizing Centres or creating Tertiary Centres to ensure creation of at least some compact, complete communities (don't spread too thin)
- ▶ Do more to encourage local food production on larger remaining lands
- ▶ Develop services (e.g., parks and recreation) to accommodate growth
- ▶ Reconsider 2-storey minimum requirements in some locations (e.g., Neighbourhood Centres)







# ACTIVE MOBILITY & PRIMARY TRANSIT NETWORK

Community Comments on Mapping – Events, Online, Written Submissions

## LEGEND

----- City Boundary

### MAJOR ACTIVE MOBILITY ROUTES

— Primary Route

— Secondary Route

### RDN MAJOR TRANSIT ROUTES & FACILITIES

— Rapid Transit Route

— Frequency Transit Route



Transit Exchange

### SCHOOLS

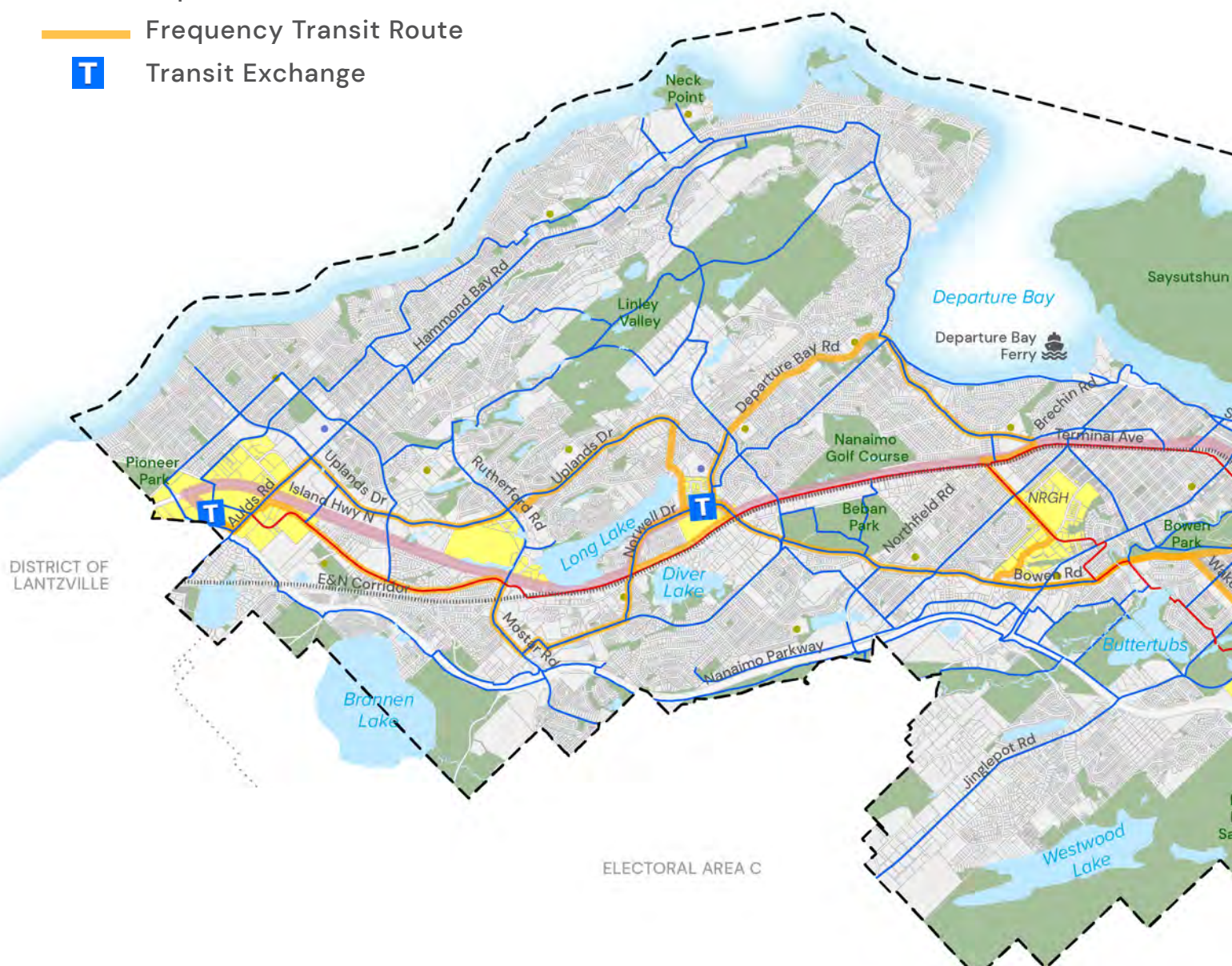
● Elementary

● Secondary

### RELATED LAND USES

Urban Centres

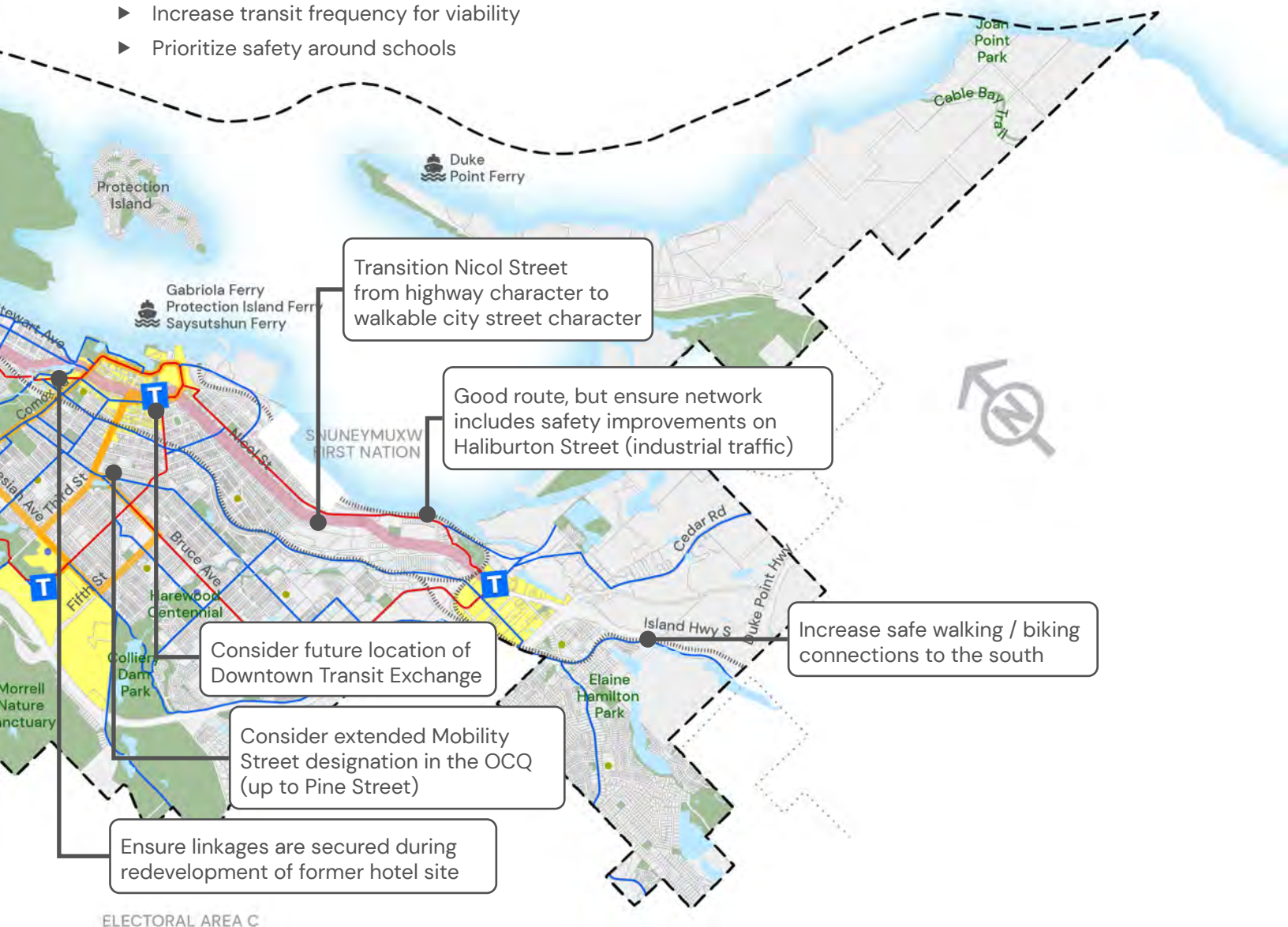
Parks & Open Spaces



## GENERAL COMMENTS

Location-specific comments noted on the map

- ▶ Ensure pedestrians are accommodated / prioritized in active mobility routes
- ▶ Add pedestrian safety improvements in busy areas (e.g., raised crosswalks, flashers)
- ▶ Consider how streets transition from mobility to urban street designations
- ▶ Consider how terrain will affect some routes
- ▶ Provide full separation of biking paths from traffic on routes connecting Centres
- ▶ Consider less busy streets for bike routes
- ▶ Make mobility routes green and treed to encourage people to use them
- ▶ Increase transit frequency for viability
- ▶ Prioritize safety around schools
- ▶ Extend walking connections through all developments (no dead ends)
- ▶ Increase facilities to support biking (e.g., secure bike storage, bike shares, e-bike charging)
- ▶ Work with ferries to reduce car traffic (e.g., transit and cycling connectivity, shuttles)
- ▶ Reduce impacts of the highway through the city (e.g., lower speeds, more crossings)
- ▶ Continue to increase connectivity and servicing (e.g., snow clearing) of bike and pedestrian routes
- ▶ Consider programs and education (e.g., bike safety, changes to driver behaviour)







# PARKS, RECREATION, CULTURE & WELLNESS

Community Comments on Mapping – Events, Online, Written Submissions

## LEGEND

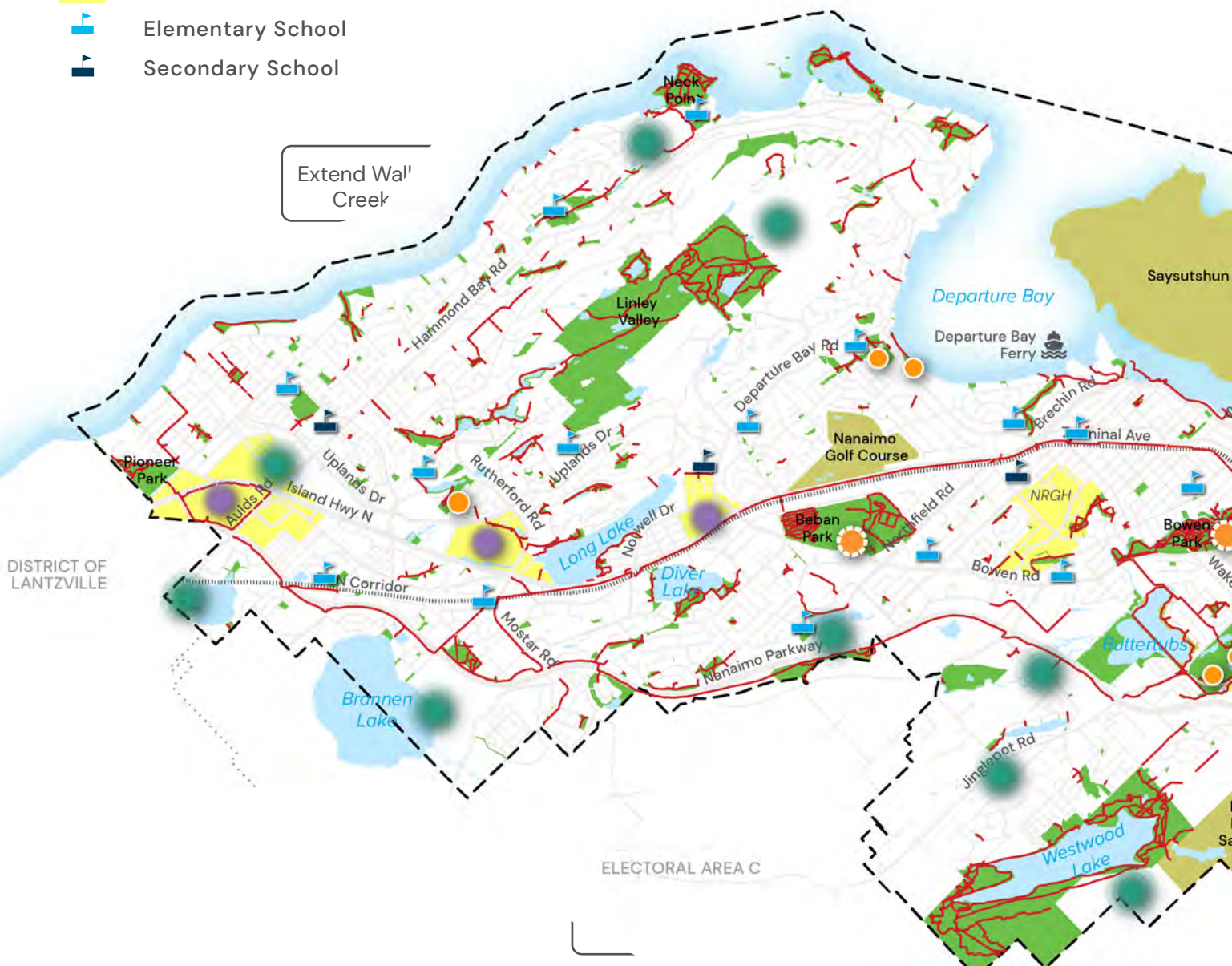
----- City Boundary

### EXISTING

- Recreation, Culture, Wellness Facility
- Trail (all active mobility routes & recreational trails of varying standards)
- City-owned Parks
- Parks & Open Space owned by others
- Urban Centre Land Use
- 🚶 Elementary School
- 🏫 Secondary School

### FUTURE

- ⬤ Upgraded Existing Recreation, Culture, Wellness Facility
- New Recreation, Culture, Wellness Facility (approx. location)
- Urban Park, Recreation, Culture & Wellness Destination (approx. location)
- Park (approx. location)

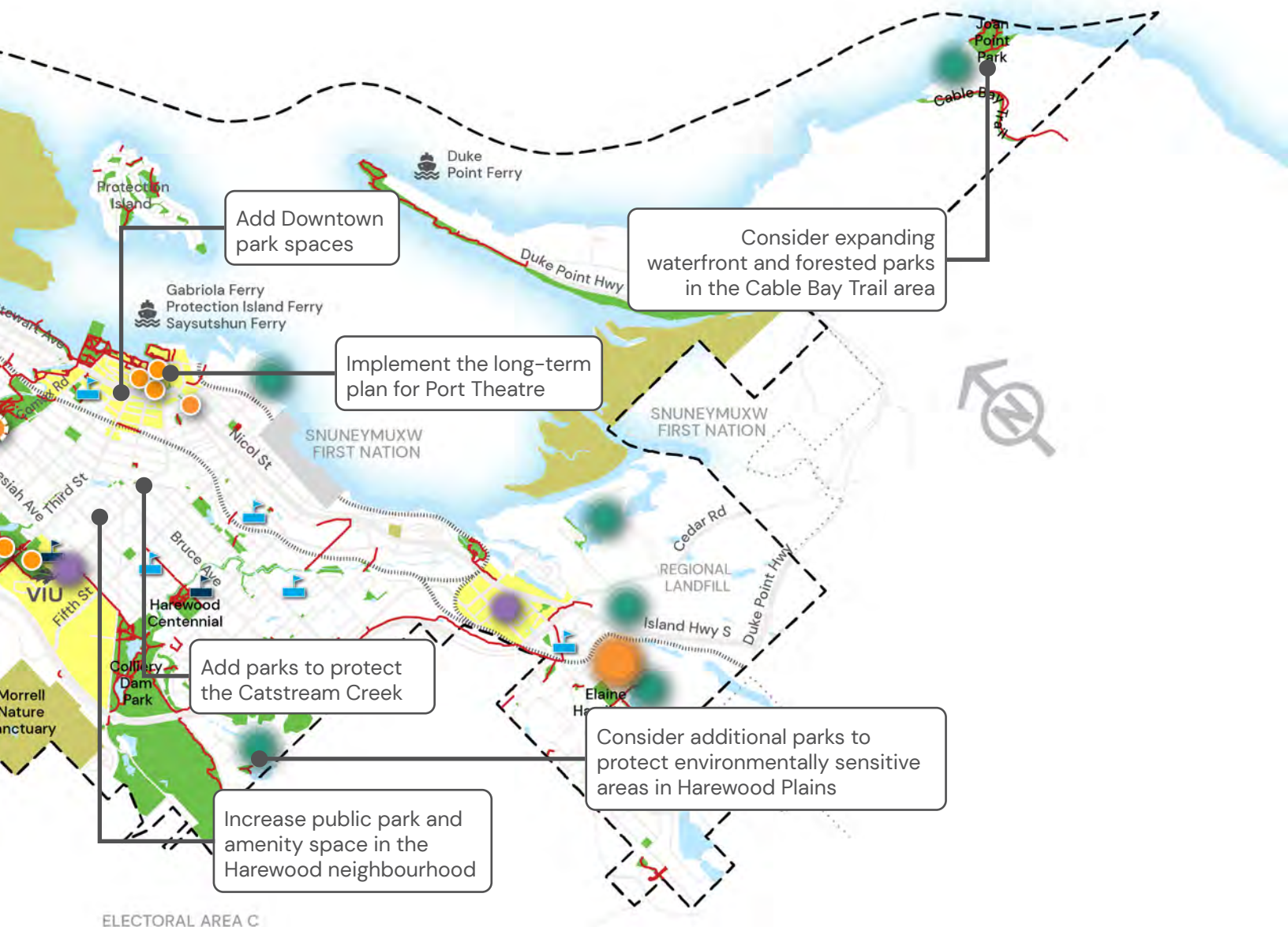




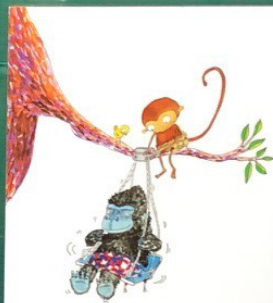
## GENERAL COMMENTS

Location-specific comments noted on the map

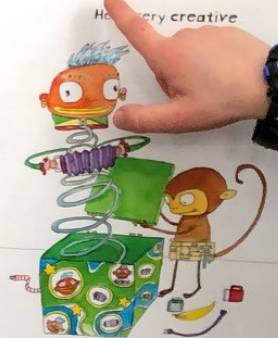
- ▶ Add signage and information to help people navigate the parks system
- ▶ Collaborate with organizations to steward and maintain assets
- ▶ Increase accessibility of parks and playgrounds
- ▶ Provide firesmart information and regulation in parks and for neighbouring properties
- ▶ Promote partnerships with schools wherever possible
- ▶ Increase education around trail etiquette
- ▶ Increase spaces to accommodate performing arts and affordable rents
- ▶ Emphasize nature parks and protection of biodiversity
- ▶ Plan to accommodate density with expansion of parks, recreation, and wellness services, especially in Centres







Every day, Chico builds or fixes something for his friends and his family.



How very creative

**REIMAGINE NANAIMO**

**PHASE 2: UNDERWAY NOW**  
February 20 - April 1, 2020

**What kind of city will Nanaimo be in 25 years?**

Phase 3 of REIMAGINE NANAIMO is focused on developing and refining the plans, projects and actions that will guide Nanaimo's future.

**Find out more about family fun around the City!**

Complete the survey  
See ideas for improving infrastructure decisions  
Sign up for project updates

[getinvolved@nanaimo.ca](https://getinvolved@nanaimo.ca)  
[reimag@nanaimo.ca](mailto:reimag@nanaimo.ca)  
250-755-8444





## 4 NEXT STEPS

With Phase 3 of the REIMAGINE NANAIMO engagement complete, the next focus is refining the draft *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged* document to reflect feedback the community has shared.

Proposed updates will be summarized and the refined City Plan will be brought forward for Council consideration. Following adoption of City Plan, the City would focus on developing an Integrated Action Plan to prioritize actions that will support realization of the directions in City Plan.



## NEXT STEPS IN THE PROCESS

Thank you

NANAIMO!

### REIMAGINE NANAIMO ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

Over the past two years through the REIMAGINE NANAIMO journey, our community has shaped a vision and path forward for Nanaimo's next 25 years. Now, after three phases of engagement, all community input is being brought together to review and refine the Draft *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged*.



## WHAT'S NEXT?



### CITY PLAN REFINEMENT

The project team will make refinements to the draft City Plan to consider the feedback shared by the community, alongside feedback from organizations, Committees, and staff. Proposed changes will be documented and shared for people to see how the plan has evolved.



### BYLAW REVIEW & ADOPTION PROCESS

Through the bylaw review and adoption process, Council will review the plan, hear further public comments, and consider adoption of *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged*.



### INTEGRATED ACTION PLAN & MONITORING STRATEGY

When *City Plan – Nanaimo Relmaged* is complete, we will have our framework and guiding document. Then it's time to focus on how we get it done. Work will continue to develop two key supporting documents:

- ▶ An ***Integrated Action Plan*** that brings together actions identified through the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process as well in previous plans, to create an integrated set of priority projects and programs our community aspires to complete.
- ▶ A ***Monitoring Strategy*** that confirms key indicators and targets that the City will track to measure progress towards our goals and report back to the community.







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