

## 2022-2026 Financial Plan: Public Engagement Summary

From October 1, 2021 to November 23, 2021, residents of Squamish were invited to participate in the 2022-2026 Financial Plan discussions. This year's budget engagement process focused on an IAP2 "inform and consult" level objective (International Association for Public Participation framework). District staff shared information focused on three key areas, while inviting residents to share what their priorities are for the budget, ask questions, and provide comments and feedback on the proposed plan.

### Key Information Shared:

- The proposed 4.07% increase in property tax revenue required to fund projects and services that will help meet growth pressures, facility renewals, and demand for services
- Information about facilities and infrastructure planning and how District facilities renewals are being prioritized and funded in the community
- Details about service level changes, special projects, capital projects utilities, and climate change projects in the proposed 2022-2026 Financial plan

During the budget engagement period staff used a variety of communications and engagement strategies to share information and collect feedback from members of the public. These included:

- Let's Talk Squamish – The District's newly launched online engagement platform
- Interactive online budget tool
- News release to local media outlets
- Media briefings
- The District's weekly E-News email newsletter
- Weekly advertising in local media outlets
- In-person information displays at four District facilities
- Social media campaigns
- In-person and virtual events

During the process, budget promotional posts had a reach of over 35,000 across online platforms Let's Talk Squamish, Facebook, Instagram and the District's interactive budget tool. Let's Talk Squamish received 682 visits to the budget project page. There were 1,286 engagements on social media, which included reactions, clicks, comments, and shares. As well, the interactive budget tool received 661 views.

Generally speaking, comments and questions during the engagement focused on improvements needed to existing District facilities, infrastructure, and amenities or the need for new District facilities and services.

Below are some of the results from the different engagement methods.

### **Let'sTalkSquamish.ca**

- The 2022-2026 Financial Plan page on Let's Talk Squamish encouraged input from members of the public through an idea sharing tool, a question-and-answer tool, as well as discussion forums.
- The page was open for input from the public from October 1 – November 23, 2021
- During this time 682 visitors viewed the project page
- 52 people left a comment, asked a question, or shared an idea, 171 visitors downloaded a document or clicked on a link for more information, and 438 visitors simply browsed the page
- All questions, ideas, and comments can be found in Appendix 2
- As a newly launched platform, The District is in the early stages with Let's Talk Squamish. It is expected to see higher usage numbers next year as more residents are registered with accounts and familiar with the functionality.
- Please see the appendix for Let's Talk Squamish examples.

### **Online Budget Tool**

- The online budget exploration tool launched on October 25, 2021
- The online budget tool received 661 page views during the budget engagement period

### **Social Media**

- Social media was used during the engagement period to promote budget events, share information, and drive traffic towards Let's Talk Squamish on the interactive online budget tool
- Budget content on Facebook and Instagram had a reach of 34,496 accounts
- Facebook had the most reach with 28,679 and Instagram received 5,817
- During the engagement period there were 12 budget posts shared on Instagram and 29 posts shared on Facebook

### **Chief Advertising**

- Advertisements for the budget engagement were published from in the Squamish Chief for nine weeks, beginning September 23 promoting the Mayor's Drop-In, which was budget themed
- The Squamish Chief has a circulation of 7,500 readers

### **District E-Newsletter**

- Nine email newsletters were sent during the budget engagement period to the District's subscriber list of 2099 email addresses

### **Printed Budget Packages and Information Displays**

- Budget information boards and a breakdown of the budget were available at four District Facilities: Municipal Hall, Brennan Park Recreation Centre, the Library and The 55 Activity Centre
- The information boards were up November 12-23, 2021

### **Facilities Replacements Public Information Night**

- The event took place October 27, 2021 from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- Staff hosted an information evening to discuss the Real Estates and Facilities Master Plan, the current facilities renewals that are underway, what is planned next, and what facilities could be upgraded in the future
- This event was held in-person at The 55 Activity Centre.
- The information boards that were displayed at the in-person event were shared online on Let's Talk Squamish after the event
- Staff were on hand to speak with attendees and answer questions
- 14 people attended the event
- All comments left at the information stations at this event can be found in Appendix 2

### **Public Information Meeting**

- The event took place November 23, 2021 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- A public information meeting to discuss all aspects of the 2022-2026 Financial Plan was held. This event was hosted as a hybrid in-person and virtual event to ensure a safe and accessible space for any residents wishing to attend
- Questions and comments were encouraged from event attendees, both in-person, and people who joined the event virtually. Staff were available to answer questions and respond to concerns.
- 24 people participated in the event (9 in-person, 8 on WebEx, 7 via live stream on squamish.ca)
- A summary of all comments received at this event can be found in Appendix 2

### **Council Mail**

- Council mail received on budget related matters during this engagement period has been included as budget feedback
- From October 1 to November 23, 2021 14 letters or emails related to budget topics were received
- In addition, there were 36 form emails related to the Ravenswood playground, traffic calming on Perth Drive and covered structures

### **Petitions**

- The District has been made aware of a petition during the engagement period titled *Squamish Needs a Boat Launch*
- The petition received 520 signatures during the budget engagement period. The petition continues to be active and has not yet been formally presented to the District.
- The requests made in this petition can be Found in Appendix 2



### Supporting Budget Information Documents

To support the budget engagement process some key backgrounders and FAQs were developed, including the following:

- [Facilities Renewals Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Facilities Renewals Backgrounder: How We Got Here](#)
- [Master Plans Backgrounder: Managing Infrastructure – How Squamish is Keeping Up](#)

### Common Topics at a Glance

Squamish residents provided more than 100 comments related to the budget. Below are some common topics that came up across different comments, questions, and engagement tools. In some cases, one person may have expressed more than one comment. Appendix 2 has the complete comment list.

Common Topics		
Topic	Number of Comments or Questions	Likes on Let's Talk Squamish
Investments in Recreation Facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brennan Park Recreation Centre upgrades</li> <li>• Second sheet of ice</li> <li>• New pool</li> <li>• Splash pad</li> <li>• Road access to all-weather field</li> <li>• Skatepark upgrades</li> <li>• Beach volleyball courts</li> <li>• The 55 Activity Centre</li> </ul>	31 comments	13
Move Pickleball Courts from Eaglewind	14 comments (this includes 13 signatures from residents at Parkhouse Strata)	0
Need for Boat Launch	7 comments	3
Climate Change Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General climate comments</li> <li>• Flood prevention</li> <li>• Improved transit</li> </ul>	7 comments	2
Concerns Over Tax Increases	6 comments	
Investments in Library, Arts, and Culture Facilities	5 comments	2
Establish Wildlife Corridors in the District	5 comments	2
Sidewalk Improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Along Government Road in Brackendale</li> <li>• Along Tantalus Road</li> <li>• Along all major roads</li> </ul>	5 comments	
Opposed to Municipal Hall Lease	4 comments	0

## Appendix 1 : Engagement Examples

### Sample of submissions to the Let's Talk Squamish Ideas tool



Add your idea

**phowlett87**  
9 days ago

**Tool Library**



Tool Library + Repair + Workshop space - Saves everyone from buyi...

Share 1 Comment 1 ❤️

**vmorrisott**  
a month ago

**Better handicap access downtown - the sidewalks are very rough and few stores have direct access that isn't a big bump / small door.**

Wheelchair Access

Share 0 Comment 5 ❤️

**GORDO**  
21 days ago

**New boat launch for the boating tax payers of Squamish**

Share 1 Comment 4 ❤️

**Emmm**  
7 days ago

**Sidewalks along all major roads**

A complete network of sidewalks along all major roads is greatly ...

Share 0 Comment 1 ❤️

**Deborahgunter**  
a month ago

**Save ocean front access**

"With the budget, Council and staff are working hard to meet our ..."

Share 3 Comments 1 ❤️

**smdwalker**  
a month ago

**Brennan Park**

Splash pad in particular, but all upgrades to Brennan Park should...

Share 0 Comment 3 ❤️

**Laurel**  
24 days ago

**Indoor skateboard park or upgrades and landscaping done to the current one. It's one of our most used parks and needs more.**

Share 0 Comment 1 ❤️

**laurenne\_desterre**  
23 days ago

**Beach volleyball courts!!!**



Beach volleyball for competitive 4s leagues and recreational 6s I...

Share 1 Comment 3 ❤️

**Leanner**  
9 days ago

**Municipal Housing Authority + Adopted/Updated Affordable Housing Strategy**

Long overdue. Inclusionary zoning isn't enough.

Share 0 Comment 1 ❤️

**martine**  
a month ago

**Sea to Sky Biodiversity Conservation Strategy**

It is very important for DOS to establish wildlife corridors befo...

Share 2 Comments 5 ❤️

**Jayne Reeves**  
a month ago

**Maintain the mental health of our young people - engage at risk groups to identify 'red flags' to potential problems and possible solutions**

Increased gaming, use of social media and development of a 'metav...

Share 0 Comment 2 ❤️

**David Wilson**  
7 days ago

**Community Amenities to Benefit all Ages**

Expedite the Brennan park project (pool, full size gymnasium(s), ...)

Share 0 Comment 0 ❤️

**LoriP**  
15 days ago

**Addition of recreational facilities with growing population density/development. More activated public spaces**

Pool, rink, splash pad, Junior (secondary) skate park downtown, m...

Share 1 Comment 3 ❤️

**Jayne Reeves**  
a month ago

**Climate change and actions to address this**

Think all new and improved housing developments should have : bik...

Share 1 Comment 2 ❤️

**Tim Marks**  
5 days ago

**A way to permanently keep bears out of garbage. Could be leaving bins locked, and have GFL employees unlock at time of pickup.**

Share 0 Comment 0 ❤️

**jen.kraus**  
a month ago

**Beach Volleyball Courts**

The closest spot for outdoor volleyball is either Whistler or Van...

Share 1 Comment 6 ❤️

**smdwalker**  
a month ago

**Arts Centre**

An arts centre with a proper stage

Share 0 Comment 2 ❤️

**SarahR**  
16 days ago

**Building updates**

I would like to see more improvements made to our old buildings s...

Share 0 Comment 1 ❤️

## Sample of questions received on Let's Talk Squamish

**Q Are we asking developers to pitch in on our infrastructure and amenities? It appears we are far behind on both, but construction is booming. Please elaborate.**

Choooper asked, 20 days ago

Thank you for reaching out with this question. Developers contribute to infrastructure for our community by paying development cost charges (DCCs). They also pay to construct any and all new infrastructure needed to serve their particular development. DCC's are monies collected from developers to offset costs of new infrastructure related to growth.

DCCs are legislated by the Province through the Local Government Act. The idea of the legislation is that growth pays for growth and it helps communities offset these costs.

There are very specific items that DCCs can fund – these include capital upgrades to infrastructure (roads, water, sewer and drainage) required for growth, as well as parkland acquisition and park development costs. There is a set formula to ensure that communities can recover the costs of infrastructure needed to support growth, as well as ensure a fair, consistent and transparent process. The current DCC bylaw is available for public review here. This bylaw was updated in 2020, and is currently under review.

The community can view the proposed budget projects for 2022 -26 to see which projects are funded by DCCs. For example, the Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade is budgeted at \$10.2M and a new water reservoir is budgeted at \$4M. Both are projects paid for by DCCs. You can explore the budget via this tool:

<https://letstalksquamish.ca/budget-2022-interactive-tool>

In terms of "being behind," the District has master plans for all of our infrastructure, which look at upgrades and improvements and what is required to maintain and extend all these services. None of these master plans indicate that we are significantly "lagging" or "behind."

In terms of other amenities, the District has a Community Amenity Contribution Policy which guides how developers contribute amenities, and outlines the District's expectations of developers' contributions that are negotiated as part of amendments proposed to the Zoning Bylaw by developers. CACs are intended to address the additional demands beyond DCCs that result from new development proposals and try to ensure that "growth pays for growth." These are only allowed to be collected as part of applications for rezoning amendments.

Amenity contribution targets currently prioritize affordable housing. An example of this is that (in 2020) 55 affordable housing units were secured at issuance of the Waterfront Landing development permit. Eight units were secured in Garibaldi Springs, and two units secured in The Wilfred. When built, these units will be rented through a Housing Society that will be formed to oversee this inventory.

The current CAC Policy is available for public review here

Council is currently discussing the formation of the Housing Society (see Nov 9 Report to Council).



**Q Where in the budget or OCP is their consideration for Ecole Les Aiglons or SD93? Why has it been omitted from both documents?**

Djoseph asked, about 1 month ago

Thank you for this question. OCP policies for community educational facilities (OCP Section 15.3) focus on consultations to plan for and meet anticipated needs for facilities and support services for the future. The adopted language in the OCP references a singular school district, which is misleading. The District acknowledges both public and private independent schools and educational institutions that are operating, and we will improve this policy language in the future to reflect the multiple school districts and educational institutions in our community.

(During the OCP engagement we made efforts to reach out to all local schools - both public and independent ones. Our stakeholder plan reflected the fact that we have multiple schools in town including the Francophone school, Montessori, Waldorf, and beyond).

Sample of social media posts shared on the District's Facebook



**BUDGET SPOTLIGHT:**

**FACILITIES UPGRADES & REPLACEMENTS**

- UNDERWAY** Two new Fire Halls and Public Works Yard
- PROPOSED** Transit Maintenance Facility, Municipal Offices, Brennan Park Recreation Centre Phase 1
- FUTURE** Remaining phases of Brennan Park Recreation Centre (Second ice rink, pool and wellness centre) and Library

Learn more and weigh in:  
[LetsTalkSquamish.ca](http://LetsTalkSquamish.ca) 

1,472  
People reached

70  
Engagements

Boost post



**District of Squamish**  
 Published by Hootsuite · November 17 at 2:06 PM ·

Did you know the draft 2022 Five-year Financial Plan paves the way to help #Squamish meet its current growth pressures, facility improvements, and demand for services? The draft plan proposes a 4.07% increase in the property tax revenue required in 2022, which when shared amongst residential taxpayers is estimated to be an average increase of \$91?

What do you think should Council consider before adopting the draft 2022-26 Financial Plan? Let us know in the discussion forum!  
<http://letstalksquamish.ca/.../what-should-council-consider>



LETSTALKSQUAMISH.CA  
 What should Council consider before adopting the draft 2022-26 Financial Plan? This includes a 4.07% increase in...

Sample of content used in email newsletters



**2022**  
let's talk budget

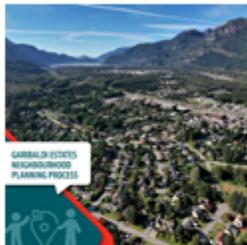
**THE BUDGET IMPACTS ALL OF US, EVERY DAY. LET'S TALK ABOUT IT**

Council discussions on the proposed 2022-2026 Five Year Financial Plan have begun. We want to make sure you have all the information you need to join the conversation.

We hope you'll take this opportunity to get involved. [Ask a question, participate in a discussion forum, learn about planned info nights, or learn more about the budgeting process.](#)

[Join the Discussion Now](#)

## WHAT'S ON AT LET'S TALK SQUAMISH

 <p>Council discussions on the proposed 2022-2026 Five Year Financial Plan have begun. Council and staff are working hard to meet our community's needs today while planning for the Squamish of tomorrow.</p> <p><a href="#">Join the Conversation</a></p>	 <p>We want to hear from Squamish residents to create a plan that is a good fit for the neighbourhood, improves the livability of the area, and supports larger community goals outlined in the OCP.</p> <p><a href="#">Join the Conversation</a></p>
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*Sample of ad run in the Squamish Chief*



**let's talk budget**

We are seeking community input  
on the Five-Year Financial Plan for  
2022 to 2026.

Budget materials and engagement  
opportunities are available online at  
[LetsTalkSquamish.ca](https://LetsTalkSquamish.ca).

A Budget Information Meeting  
will be held November 23 for both  
virtual and in-person attendance,  
beginning at 5:30 p.m.



**Let's Talk  
SQUAMISH**



[LetsTalkSquamish.ca](https://LetsTalkSquamish.ca)

**Appendix 2: Budget 2022 Public Comments Received**

Feedback Method	Person	Date	Comment	Likes	Tags
Facilities Information Night		27-Oct-21	Regarding future facilities upgrades: I would be ashamed to tell the public that after so much growth in the community you still can't improve the rec centre		Need for Brennan Park upgrades
		27-Oct-21	Regarding facilities upgrades that are currently underway: Build buildings with a longer		Buildings should last more the 50
		27-Oct-21	Regarding future facilities upgrades: We are wanting a bigger library! Love books.		Need for Library upgrades
		27-Oct-21	Regarding future facilities upgrades: Need an expanded library		Need for Library upgrades
Public information Night	Grant Mcradu	23-Nov-21	An earlier recommendation to Council said that the District is going to move forward with a lease for Municipal Hall. Would this lease lead to a 2.4% tax increase? If this is the case, when is the earliest that a lease would be signed? <i>(This is a summary of the comment and speaking on behalf of the Squamish Seniors Centre Society: The net cost to run the 55 is not listed as a line item in the budget. We want to see an accurate number to run The 55 listed as a line item in the budget.</i>		Opposed to a long term lease of Municipal Hall and suggest the District owns a joint facility with a
	Herbert Vesely	23-Nov-21	The District is allowing the Squamish Arts Council to use a room at The 55 Activity Centre one dollar per year for the next five years. Why is the Squamish Seniors Centre Society not given similar access? Why are our taxes going up more than the cost of living? As a Senior, on a pension, we cannot afford to continue this. The lift bridge proposed across the Mamquam Blind Channel is an unreasonable expense with an annual operating cost for taxpayers. The District should consider an alternative fixed bridge closer to the railway bridge as a cheaper option. <i>(This is a summary of the comment and question)</i>		Need to know the net cost of operating The 55; limit tax increases
	Bob Brant	23-Nov-21	I am very concerned about the proposal to lease Municipal Hall long term. Are there opportunities for partner organizations, such as the School Board and the District to come together on new joint facility? Can we please begin a visioning process to determine what a new joint facility could look like for our community? <i>(This is a summary of the comment and question)</i>		Opposed to a long term lease of Municipal Hall and suggest the District owns a joint facility with a partner organization
	Parkhouse Strata Residents	23-Nov-21	Please include funds in the 2022 budget to relocate the pickleball courts at Eaglewind and place the courts at Brennan Park, where they should have been located in the first place. We request that the District remove the nets immediately and place "No Pickleball" signs at the Eaglewind tennis courts. There is a body of evidence that suggests where pickleball courts should be located in reference to residential homes and the effects of the noise of		Stop pickleball at the Eaglewind courts and move the pickleball courts to Brennan Park
	Grant Mcradu	23-Nov-21	Now that I know the budget will be in front of Council on November 30, 2021, I would like to ask again, will there be a 2.4% tax increase as a result of a lease for Municipal Hall? Is it really a 40 year lease at \$1,000,000 per year? It is my understanding that a lease will not be signed in the next six-months? We are hoping we can encourage Council to consider a		Opposed to a long term lease of Municipal Hall and suggest the District owns a joint facility with a partner organization
	Matt Barry	23-Nov-21	What happens if we don't get the grant for upgrades to Brennan Park? What is the priority then to fix that facility? What would be the plan? <i>(This is a summary of the comment and question)</i>		Need for upgrades to Brennan Park
	Bob Brant	23-Nov-21	Was there any thought given to placing the DOS offices at the public works yard? <i>(This is a summary of the comment and question)</i>		Opposed to a long term lease of Municipal Hall and suggest the District owns a joint facility with a
	Steven Chua	23-Nov-21	Last year taxes were lowered due to the pandemic. The pandemic is still here. Did you consider lowering taxes again this year? <i>(This is a summary of the comment and question)</i>		Limit tax increases
Let's Talk Squamish - Ideas	jen.kraus	04-Oct-21	Beach Volleyball Courts. The closest spot for outdoor volleyball is either Whistler or Vancouver. It would be fantastic to see a few courts in Squamish. These courts would	6	Need for beach volleyball courts
	Knewman2536	26-Oct-21	<b>RE Beach Volleyball Courts:</b> This would be awesome. We need something more to keep fit.	0	Need for beach volleyball courts
	Deborahgunter	06-Oct-21	Save ocean front access. "With the budget, Council and staff are working hard to meet our community's needs today, while planning for the Squamish of tomorrow." I believe if you really meant that you would never agree to pointlessly remove the spit access road when you have only just closed all other ocean access for the next 2 years. While I don't live in Squamish at the moment it WAS my intention to move there in the immediate future. I have spent inordinate amounts of time in Squamish over the last 6 years. If you want to build a better tomorrow for Squamish consider what you're doing today! Tourists, nature lovers, kayakers, canoeing, SUP's, kites, and ALL Squamish businesses will be losing by this monumentally short sighted decision. You have to know it won't save fish and if the government cared that much then things like this wouldn't be happening. <a href="https://globalnews.ca/news/8240212/bc-hydro-mass-salmon-stranding/?utm_medium=Facebook&amp;utm_source=980CKNW&amp;utm_campaign=fclid=1wAR3CzNn1ukaVRwKJb84AcVFBYoscwUBii8rGyeLGHALNVK9YLZNX4oHKchl">https://globalnews.ca/news/8240212/bc-hydro-mass-salmon-stranding/?utm_medium=Facebook&amp;utm_source=980CKNW&amp;utm_campaign=fclid=1wAR3CzNn1ukaVRwKJb84AcVFBYoscwUBii8rGyeLGHALNVK9YLZNX4oHKchl</a>	1	Maintain ocean front access; Opposed to spit removal
		07-Oct-21	<b>RE save ocean front access:</b> Partial spit removal will allow juvenile salmon to access the estuary. Chinook salmon populations are dwindling and these fish are a main food source for orcas, eagles and bears. If we want a healthy oceanfront, with thriving wildlife and waters, it is important that we allow salmon to access the refuge the estuary provides. Development of the oceanfront access (Nexen) is a different issue entirely and the focus for public access to the ocean should be placed on this.	0	Supportive of spit removal
		11-Oct-21	<b>RE save ocean front access:</b> I wouldn't feel so negative about the removal of the road if I actually believed that it would save the salmon but alas, I don't. There have been no reports to substantiate the information. 2 million dollars have already been spent on culverts up the road which have done nothing, admittedly by the same individuals who claim that this WILL work. What chance do the juvenile fish have against the birds and seals in low tide in the estuary? Why aren't there any reports available to the public to back up the 'suggestion' that THIS will actually be successful?	0	Opposed to spit removal
	vmorrisott	08-Oct-21	Better handicap access downtown - the sidewalks are very rough and few stores have direct access that isn't a big bump / small door. Wheelchair Access.	5	Need for accessible buildings

	Jayne Reeves	18-Oct-21	Climate change and actions to address this: Think all new and improved housing developments should have : bike lanes; vehicle charging points; car / ebike share facilities included; P. V cells on homes for hot water and electricity; reuse of grey water as part of housing plans for individual homes and grey water tanks for maintaining strata gardens ; installation of the most efficient white good appliances; encourage use of reusable but effective materials where possible; access to recycling bins that are routinely maintained; encourage vertical gardens in new communities and development with equipment that is battery and not gas operated and therefore quieter and kinder to the environment. etc. Schools to have citizenship classes reinforcing their role in preventing littering and guardianship of planet and actions to empower our young people. Community via media to be reminded of small changes that we can all do to make a big impact.	2	Prioritize climate change mitigation
	Adrizua	08-Nov-11	<b>RE Climate change and actions to address this:</b> Yes! Also guides and incentives for retrofitting older houses for energy efficiency	0	Prioritize climate change mitigation
	Jayne Reeves	18-Oct-21	Maintain the mental health of our young people - engage at risk groups to identify 'red flags' to potential problems and possible solutions. Increased gaming, use of social media and development of a 'metaverse' on the horizon I worry about isolation and mental health of our young people. Not sure of the solution but are we missing a trick in bringing young people together developing gaming hubs so those with similar interests interact 1:1 - perhaps we should ask our young gaming people what they think and want and ask the 'gaming corporations' to fund it.	2	Need for youth mental health supports
	martine	20-Oct-21	Sea to Sky Biodiversity Conservation Strategy. It is very important for DOS to establish wildlife corridors before much more residential, commercial and industrial development occurs. Planning greenways and ecosystem corridors in DOS's budget will ensure wildlife's ability to navigate through their ecosystem while limiting potential human conflict. Human infrastructure, climate change and human recreation is seriously impacting wildlife. Their ideal habitat is also where humans prefer to live and recreate. Once existing and possible green belts/corridors disappear, they cannot be regained, ever. While it is easy to say "too bad but wildlife will adapt", they do not. Human impacts usually result in mortality or reduced offspring due to stress.	2	Establish wildlife corridors within District
		21-Oct-21	<b>RE Sea to Sky Biodiversity Conservation Strategy:</b> 2022 is excellent timing for the DOS to benefit from the many complementary data gathering and collaborative conservation initiatives in progress as a direct result of the Átl'ka7sem Howe Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region designation. It would be wonderful to see the District of Squamish recognized for taking action on the environment and climate change by moving forward with planning for ecosystem corridors.	0	Establish wildlife corridors within District
		15-Nov-21	<b>RE Sea to Sky Biodiversity Conservation Strategy:</b> The North Crumpit Woods include an extensive area of native habitat with valuable wetlands: the area is home to bears, deer, and many species of smaller animals. The North Crumpit Neighbourhood Planning Process needs to include the expertise of an environmental consultant. The process could benefit from the work recently done to develop a plan to address habitat connectivity in our area. A request to Council to approve \$40,000 for phase 2 of that habitat connectivity study is on the agenda for the Council meeting tomorrow night, November 16.	0	Establish wildlife corridors within District
	smdwalker	22-Oct-21	Brennan Park. Splash pad in particular, but all upgrades to Brennan Park should remain a priority	3	Need for Brennan Park upgrades; Need for splash pad; new pool needed; second sheet of ice needed; wellness centre needed
	smdwalker	22-Oct-21	Arts Centre. An arts centre with a proper stage.	2	Arts centre needed
	Laurel	26-Oct-21	Indoor skateboard park or upgrades and landscaping done to the current one. It's one of our most used parks and needs more.	1	Need for skatepark upgrades/indoor skatepark
	Taurean	20-Nov-21	<b>RE Indoor skateboard park or upgrades and landscaping done to the current one:</b> Would be great to see some covering and lighting at the existing skate park there's so little to do when it's raining and this would really help a large portion of our population.	1	Need for skatepark upgrades/indoor skatepark
	laurenne_esterre	27-Oct-21	Beach volleyball courts!!! Beach volleyball for competitive 4s leagues and recreational 6s leagues!	3	Need for beach volleyball courts
	jen.kraus	30-Oct-21	<b>RE Beach volleyball courts!!!:</b> I agree. There are currently no courts at all in Squamish. There is a big beach volleyball following in Squamish that currently have to travel to Whistler or Van to play.	0	Need for beach volleyball courts
	Gordo	29-Oct-21	New boat launch for the boating tax payers of Squamish	3	Need for boat launch
	Emmm	12-Nov-21	<b>RE New boat launch for the boating tax payers of Squamish:</b> Boat launch with proper docks and sufficient parking is greatly needed. It's embarrassing that an oceanfront community doesn't have a proper boat launch.	0	Need for boat launch
	SarahR	03-Nov-21	Building updates. I would like to see more improvements made to our old buildings so that they can also be accessible (buttons to open doors, working elevators, disability permit parking).	1	Need for accessible buildings
	LoriP	04-Nov-21	Addition of recreational facilities with growing population density/development. More activated public spaces. Pool, rink, splash pad, junior (secondary) skate park downtown, more community gardens. Maintain ocean front access. Youth centre is coming...yes!	2	Need for Brennan Park upgrades; Need for splash pad; Need for skatepark upgrades/indoor skatepark; second ice rink needed; new pool needed; Maintain ocean front access
	Taurean	20-Nov-21	<b>RE Addition of recreational facilities with growing population density/development:</b> Cricket pitch up at Brennan park would get lots of use too.	2	Need for Brennan Park upgrades; need for cricket pitch

	Emmm		<b>RE Addition of recreational facilities with growing population density/development:</b> Splash pad definitely needed in the summer for young kids	0	Need for splash pad
	LeanneR	10-Nov-21	Municipal Housing Authority + Adopted/Updated Affordable Housing Strategy. Long overdue. Inclusionary zoning isn't enough.	0	Need for housing authority
	phowlett87	10-Nov-21	Tool Library. Tool Library + Repair + Workshop space - Saves everyone from buying every tool they might need for themselves. Provide space for repairs and refurbishment services and workshops. Educate on home/appliance Repair. Men's Sheds in Australia have used similar models to promote better mental health amongst men.	1	Need for tool library
	Adrizua	13-Nov-21	<b>RE Tool Library:</b> Yes! This can help reduce waste and create community	0	Need for tool library
	Emmm	12-Nov-21	Sidewalks along all major roads. A complete network of sidewalks along all major roads is greatly needed. It's silly to wait for developers to put in sidewalks, the district should just eat the cost and get this done. It's unsafe for pedestrians in many areas of Squamish because of the lack of proper sidewalks along major roadways. I see so many kids walking home from school on Government Road, these kids should be on sidewalks but there is no other option. If the district wants more people out of their cars they need to make walking safer and sidewalks are the best way to do this.	1	Need for sidewalk improvements; need for sidewalks on Government Road in Brackendale for school kids
	Cbowers	20-Nov-21	<b>RE Sidewalks along all major roads:</b> The sidewalk situation in Squamish is a joke. I have raised concerns over the sidewalk situation on Tantalus Rd specifically, but only to be reverted letstalksquamish. In regards to Tantalus rd many vehicles travel in excess of the 50km/h marked speed. Last week my wife and I while walking on the shoulder with our baby stroller observed a driver of a large RV heading towards us who seemed to be distracted by his cell phone, scary stuff. Yes, there is a bike bath but it is not finished (waiting on developer) ends to a cross walk (the only cross walk on Tantalus rd and it's after a nearly blind corner). It's time to get those sidewalks completed and its a simple and easy win for the district. Why should we as community endorse further development and densification when not even the simplest of tasks cannot be completed?		Need for sidewalk improvements; need for sidewalks on Tantalus Road
	David Wilson	12-Nov-21	Community Amenities to Benefit all Ages. Expedite the Brennan park project (pool, full size gymnasium(s), work out facility, squash and racquetball courts, rinks, etc.). Outdoor pool and large spray park Encourage development of a movie theater, bowling alley, indoor kids play park, etc.	0	Need for Brennan Park upgrades; Need for splash pad; second sheet of ice needed; wellness centre needed
	Tim Marks	14-Nov-21	A way to permanently keep bears out of garbage. Could be leaving bins locked, and have GFL employees unlock at time of pickup.	0	Plan to keep bears out of garbage needed
	Patricia	19-Nov-21	Reactivate the 55 Centre to be a general hub for Seniors to socialize to promote healthy social togetherness		Need for the 55 to be a social hub for seniors
	Tanaya	20-Nov-21	Entertainment. I am a single mother to an adult with special needs who has a mindset of a child and I feel like there is not much entertainment for things for him to do after daytime hours (like after 5pm). He isn't into "outdoors" type things but would like to see something like a movie theatre, bowling alley, arcade, even a working air hockey table somewhere. Something that kids of all ages (and even adults) and abilities would benefit.		Need for more indoor entertainment in Squamish
	Taurean	20-Nov-21	<b>RE Entertainment:</b> Agreed it would be great to see some more activities available for people after dark or when the weather isn't suitable for being outside.		Need for more indoor entertainment in Squamish
	reirameso	20-Nov-21	Emergency Preparedness; More Street Lighting for Cycling; Affordable Housing. Almost the whole town is located in a flood plain - are we ready? Bike paths are not lit at night. Very difficult to find housing for low to average income.		Need for flood mitigation/preparedness; lighting needed for bike paths. Housing affordability challenges
	Taurean	20-Nov-21	Plan to encourage more family doctors to locate and operate in Squamish		Encourage more family doctors in Squamish
	Dan	20-Nov-21	Continued support of Under 1 Roof		Continued support for Under One Roof
	Dee818	20-Nov-21	Upgrade to amenities for kids and youth. Brennan park needs serious upgrades and more spaces for kids		More youth space needed; Brennan Park upgrades needed; second sheet of ice needed; new pool needed
	Bcarter	22-Nov-21	<b>RE Upgrade to amenities for kids and youth:</b> 100%. A second sheet of ice would allow for programs to be accessible for so many more residents. More time for hockey, figure skating but also family skate, tot, adult leagues etc. Would also love to see a larger pool and more offerings of swimming lessons, more lanes for lane swimming etc.		More youth space needed; Brennan Park upgrades needed; second sheet of ice needed; new pool needed
	dgeller	20-Nov-21	Making sure our infrastructure is resilient enough for the climate change impacts that will come. ex. dike		Need for flood mitigation/preparedness; prioritize climate change mitigation
	dgeller	20-Nov-21	A community centre/daycare/library north of Garibaldi Way to serve Brackendale, Garibaldi Estates north		Need for community centre, library, and daycare in North end of town
	dgeller	20-Nov-21	Water park		Need for splash pad
	Greg	22-Nov-21	Improved public transportation in the Sea To Sky. Let's be a leader in public transportation and get more cars off the road - especially on a highway that should/could be so easily connected by public transport between West Vancouver to Squamish to Whistler to Pemberton.		Improved public transportation
	Greg	22-Nov-21	Intramural sports leagues to bring the community together. In Squamish there are very limited recreational sport opportunities. Would be great to see places like Brennan Hub become a hub for intramural sports teams/leagues throughout the year - similar to Urban Rec in the greater Vancouver area.		Need for recreational sports leagues at Brennan Park

	BBBlanchfield	24-Nov-21	Road and parking lot upgrades for the All-Weather Field and BMX Track. The condition of the gravel access road and parking lot for the all-weather field and BMX track is deplorable. In addition to being riddled with potholes, the access road is narrow and not illuminated. It is typical for vehicles to weave left and right as they navigate the pothole minefield at night as children, young adults and families walk down the side of the road. The parking lot itself is riddled with potholes and giant puddles after every rain. The all-weather field is a million dollar facility but the access is a dangerous embarrassment. In addition to the typical soccer and BMX users, the film industry routinely takes over the old gravel soccer field area and has a revolving door of vehicles shuttling personnel in and out of the area. This access road and parking lot is in need of a serious upgrade over the next five years.		Need for improvements to turf field road at Brennan Park
Let's Talk Squamish - Questions	Elliot Moses	17-Oct-21	Hi there, A couple of questions: 1. When will the fire exit at Brennan Park be fixed? Its crazy to see so many people watch games this weekend shoulder to shoulder watching from one end of the rink. 2. What's the status of a second rink? 3. What upgrade is the library looking at? Thanks in advance, Elliot Moses		Need for Brennan Park upgrades; second sheet of ice needed; what upgrades does the Library need; Brennan Park fire exit repairs
	bliseanne	27-Oct-21	I am wondering where things are at in finding an appropriate piece of land to build the new French school for District 93?		Need for land for SD 43
	Djoseph	26-Oct-21	Where in the budget or OCP is their consideration for Ecole Les Aiglons or SD93? Why has it been omitted from both documents?		Need for land for SD 43
	Concerned Resident of Garibaldi Estates	26-Oct-21	The OCP says the DOS will "Work with the School District to plan school sites to accommodate new neighbourhoods and growing areas." I am assuming the School District is SD 48. Does the DOS also work with SD 93? And if so, what is the plan to accommodate the new school needed for SD 93? A school that has approved funding but requires space. As per the OCP, the DOS is supportive of and expecting a population of 34,000 by 2040, what is the plan for the schools to support this population boom? What land has been marked for this purpose?		Need for land for SD 43
	Choooper	05-Nov-21	Are we asking developers to pitch in on our infrastructure and amenities? It appears we are far behind on both, but construction is booming. Please elaborate.		Developers should fund infrastructure and amenities; Infrastructure and amenity improvements needed
	MattSimmons	17-Nov-21	Hi, Thank you for putting all of this information online. I've been reading the plans for the dike budget and concept of changing the alignment of the dike in Brackendale. I have a few questions: 1. The cost of upgrading the existing dike versus building an entire new dike seems magnitudes higher (10x). Why would this be preferred? 2. Filling in habitat and reducing the river conveyance will only increase the velocity and make a tough angle of the Squamish into the dike at Dryden creek pump station? Why would this be preferred? 3. Wouldn't it be a higher priority to ensure we have pumps stations that meet the 1:200 capacity requirement, include redundancy and backup power to mitigate the community flood risk? With the power being overhead on Government, Depot and Judd Rd only, at what level of surface flooding will BC hydro shut down the power due to the balance of Brackendale underground with transformers at street level? The premium paid for building a whole new dike instead of upgrading existing would likely cover this cost, has that been considered? 4. The dike alignment further out in the river, if the river gets behind it, doesn't that significantly increase the risk to existing properties? Especially because its higher than the existing? 5. I am unable to see the benefit of this alignment and hoping you can shed light for me. 6. Was restoring the original channel of the Squamish river further to the west of the valley considered as an option to reduce the angles/pressure on the existing dike? I fully support the capital investment in flood protection for this community in all neighborhoods. Thank you Matt		Flood mitigation support; Brackendale dike improvements
Let's Talk Squamish - Discussion Forum	Laurel	27-Oct-21	Increase the amount of youth specific space. There are no listed upgrades that I can see to the current skate park and it desperately needs bathrooms, more parking, seating, water fountains etc. It is one of the most used parks and ignored by the district. Look at how vibrant and beautiful the Whistler skatepark is.		More youth space needed; Need for skatepark upgrades/indoor skatepark
	Laurel	18-Nov-21	Hi there. From my knowledge the new Foundry Sea to Sky building does not provide public washrooms. These washrooms are for youth 12-24 as they provide a safe place from adults and others. The users of the skatepark that don't fall within those age categories are asked to find other washrooms. With the new park and upgrades to the youth space this still does not give an answer to the lack of adequate parking, washrooms, lack of water fountain, lack of seating at the skate park. Thanks for your comments.		Need for skatepark upgrades/indoor skatepark;
	s.b.	22-Nov-21	I think the replacement of the Municipal Hall should include a parkade below, as well as retail on the first floor. The second/third floor could be the municipal Hall with dedicated housing on the 4th, 5th and 6th floor to maximize the potential of the footprint and pay for the building. Housing could be for rental to day care workers, teachers, co-op or low income residents etc. The same could be done for the future of the library, which could also contain a performing arts theatre, that could also be used for information meetings. These buildings should be bringing in revenue and address various needs in the community (housing/arts/parking etc.) as well as be the replacements needed for their primary purpose.		Any new District building should bring in revenue through sources such as parking, affordable housing, a theatre, and meeting space
Facebook	Nikki Rotmeyer	13-Nov-21	What's important is that you don't infill the Garibaldi Estates. Traffic is dangerous already, parking a joke. Diamond Road is reduced to single lane alternating traffic on the weekends because of people parking inconsiderate and you want to densify it? Give your head a shake.		Parking and traffic improvements needed in Garibaldi Estates
	Herbery Vesely	13-Nov-21	I feel that most important is to keep tax increases below the cost of living. This has not happened in the 16 years we have lived here. Why for example do we want a public amenity that involves an annual operations costs in the hundreds of thousands dollars. This is the lift bridge across the mamquam channel. A simple trestle pedestrian bridge parallel to the railway bridge would do the job of allowing Waterfront Landing residents to walk to shopping. It would be a fixed span simply dropped in place on some pilons. We could give the developer \$100,000 up front in order to change his plans. It would be a WIN/WIN. I wonder who from the muni will read this comment?		Concern about tax increases
	Melissa Murray	10-Nov-21	The DOS doesn't care about their people. They only care about lining their pockets with money		Concern about tax increases

	Kris Hansen	10-Nov-21	7.3 million on climate mitigation projects in 2022 alone! How is this a good use of tax dollars?		Prioritize climate change mitigation
	Steve Wheeler	08-Nov-21	Squamish needs a boat launch so bad there is literally a Facebook group for it. This needs to be part of the budget.		Need for boat launch
	Nathan Cairns	08-Nov-21	Any funds committed to reopen the DOS campground? That is an existing facility that would generate revenue while helping to solve the "problem" of folks camping and living in their vehicles. What is the rationale for keeping it closed District of Squamish? Covid is no longer an acceptable excuse...not that it ever was.		Reopen the Municipal campground
	Gord Gunner	08-Nov-21	How about funds for a badly needed new boat launch. No more funds for mtn bike trails until the Squamish boating community gets a piece of the pie.		Need for boat launch; stop funding mountain bike trails
	Andrew Boulton	08-Nov-21	I would urge you to consider people in Squamish when raising taxes. Salaries aren't going up, inflation has made living more expensive, people are more stretched with increasing property prices, and for those that rent out their properties, they haven't been permitted to increase rent for the entire pandemic and are slated to be able to increase rent by only 1.5%, however with property assessments increasing, so are insurance premiums. Do the right thing to people in Squamish and consider other ways of raising funds, because you'll only be hurting the people of Squamish in this enormous cash grab.		Concern about tax increases
	Andres Acevedo	08-Nov-21	Why? So you can just say you did it? You won't take into consideration any of our input		Concern about public consultation
	Brittney-Ann Jordan	01-Nov-21	Brennan park upgrades are so long overdue, the rink and the pool have been the same since I was a kid and changing the paint color a couple times doesn't count as an upgrade! With our rapidly growing community our district has been pathetic to upgrading these necessities. Stop approving more and more townhome and apartment buildings and start approving actual upgrades for our town. If we HAVE to keep adding housing make the developers contribute to these upgrades, if they are going to keep profiting off our growing community then at the very least they can spare some extras to help with the upgrades this town so desperately needs. I am so sick of hearing the excuse "well Vancouver and Whistler are close and have great facilities you can use", this is a pathetic cop out and this town needs to do better. Our facility is poorly run, we have a rink that we can't even use the stands in currently because a fire exit has not been fixed after the rink has been shut down from the end of March until the last week of September! Parents are having to watch their family and friends skate/play hockey from the lobby or behind the glassed in boards which is extremely disappointing considering the pandemic that is still happening. Do better Squamish council, do better		Need for Brennan Park upgrades; Brennan Park fire exit repairs; Developers should fund infrastructure and amenities
	Shoshana Knits	01-Nov-21	These are the upgrades that new developments through community amenity contributions as well as a larger tax base allow us to afford. I hope people keep that in mind.		Need for Brennan Park upgrades; Developers should fund infrastructure and amenities
	Gerry Reed	01-Nov-21	Can some one comment on the status of the fire escape stairs at Brennan park. When are they to be completed??		Need for Brennan Park upgrades; Brennan Park fire exit repairs
	Kyle Lang	09-Nov-21	Question? How's the stair repair at Brennan Park coming along? District of Squamish #youthsport #weneedstands		
	Cory R Smith	01-Nov-21	What's wrong with the current public works yard?		Public Works Yard upgrades
	Bradley Saugstad	20-Nov-21	I'm sure everyone will be back from the city on time for this. Hard to be included while your on the highway.		Concern about public consultation
	Lynn Knight	20-Nov-21	Well hope we don't pay 220 grand again for shelters		Covered shelters are a poor use of public funds
	Allan Rutherford	21-Nov-21	Demand that residential tax increases be rescinded. It's time for developers to pay up.		Concern about tax increases; developers should fund infrastructure and amenities
Squamish Voices - Wooden Structures		Ongoing	Dear Mayor Karen Elliott and Council, Our neighbourhoods are being neglected under your watch. I am outraged Mayor Karen Elliott decided to spend \$220,000.00 on building three wooden structures that are not an urgent necessity for general public use. This reckless spending instead cost countless young families in the Ravenswood community and surrounding areas more than just their tax dollars. It cost this town and our children a much needed playground in Ravenswood and public safety traffic calming measures on the Boulevard and Perth Drive—just two examples of more urgent community necessities in need of public funding. For years, Council has been made aware of community members' pleas for a new playground structure and traffic calming measures. It is evidently clear Mayor Karen Elliott and her team on Council are not looking out for the best interests of Squamish residents. Council needs to consider the harmful long-term impact of reckless spending on this town and our children's futures rather than turning deaf ears to our community's continued appeals.	36	Need for Ravenswood playground; Need for traffic calming on Perth Drive; Covered shelters are a poor use of public funds
Squamish Needs a Boat Launch Petition		Ongoing	The current boat launch off of Loggers Lane is in poor condition. The two existing launch ramps are poorly designed and in bad condition. There are no docks to tie off your boat for ease of launching and coming back on shore. The parking space is limited and has no organization to it at all. The road access to the boat launch is busy and getting more congested every year. An improved and relocated boat launch area would provide the following: 1) Allow community members and visitors to have better access to the ocean for a wide range of water recreational activities. 2) Increase in the Squamish retail and service industry with more tourism 3) Provide a more accessible and efficient ramp for the Marine Search and Rescue 3) Provide a way for kite boarders to get to Spit island once the Spit is partially dismantled. A boat launch in a quieter area of town with properly formed launch ramps designed to handle low and high tides as well as floating docks would make the launching of boats easier and most importantly SAFER. Squamish is "hardwired for adventure" so let's make this happen.	520	Need for boat launch

Council Mail	Jennifer Belak	02-Nov-21	<p>Dear Mayor and Council Members, I'm writing to you today to express my concerns and support of change to the roadway along Government Road in Brackendale. As a mother of two young boys, one of which walks or bikes along the bike lane from Dryden Road to Depot Road, to Brackendale Elementary, I cringe daily waiting for him to get to school and home safely. We desperately need sidewalks along this stretch of road. On Fridays, our usual garbage day in the area, there are bins in the bike lanes the whole way along government where our young children are making their way to school and home. I see it weekly (and in most cases even daily) where kids are passing other people in the lane, or getting around the garbage bins, by moving into the car lane to do so. Recently a boy fell off his bike and nearly was hit by a car by moving into the car lane and it has left many parents feeling desperate for change. This is not a rare occurrence sadly and I would love to see us make a change before it is too late. We moved here from North Vancouver four years ago and I found it so strange not to have a sidewalk along such a busy road. A few months after arriving here, I was waiting for the Post Office to open and I was a witness and first responder to a 16 year old motorcyclist who was struck by a car right in front of me. This incident left me with PTSD for several years, and thus now seeing my little one making his way along this same stretch it terrifies me to my core. I realize this has nothing to do with the bike lane, but I do recall feeling that the people in that accident felt to me as though they were driving quite fast. Cars sometimes drive upwards of 70km/hr or more through this stretch and despite me yelling at them every day, nothing changes with the drivers' behaviour. WE NEED SIDEWALKS! So, how do we begin to make a change? I'm looking to you to help me help the children and families who live in fear daily of this stretch of road to make it a safer commute for these young children and future generations of our beautiful town. Please let me know how I can help and what we can do now. Tomorrow could be too late. Yours truly, Jennifer Belak</p>	Need for sidewalk improvements; Need for sidewalks on Government Road in Brackendale for school kids
	Liz Nerland	30-Oct-21	<p>Dear Council, I am writing to express my concern about the unsafe situation we have on government road in Brackendale. My children bike this road to school every day, and the section between Judd Road and Depot Road is very dangerous. A couple weeks ago I saw a child fall off his bike into the traffic lane, and a truck swerved out of the way to avoid hitting him. Had there been oncoming traffic preventing the driver from swerving away or if this driver had been the least bit distracted this would have ended in a horrific tragedy. Please, please, please, I implore you to be proactive in setting up safe transportation routes for children in Brackendale to get to school. Do not wait to respond until after someone dies. Given the current situation it's truly not a matter of "if" but "when" something awful happens. Let's not let that happen. Sincerely, Liz Nerland</p>	Need for sidewalk improvements; Need for sidewalks on Government Road in Brackendale for school kids
	Doug Lowe	26-Oct-21	<p>Dear Mayor and Council Members, One of the reasons my wife and I recently moved to Squamish was to enjoy the water activities the area has to offer. We enjoy getting out on our boat to either go fishing, water ski or just go for a boat ride. Judging by the number of boaters that use the Loggers Lane boat ramp, there seems to be a lot of interest in these types of activities. I'm writing to you because this boat launch area is in need of significant improvement. The extremely poor condition of the launch pad as well as the design of the boat launch area makes it next to impossible to safely and efficiently launch a boat. And the available parking in the area of the ramp is atrocious in terms of space and condition. I recently travelled across Canada by vehicle to Ontario and had the opportunity to check out boat ramps along the way. I was astonished to see beautiful boat ramps and ample parking in towns with far less of a population than Squamish. Please refer to the pictures I've taken of a boat ramp in Terrace Bay, Ontario, which has a population of 1600 and another boat ramp in Dryden Ontario, which has a population of 7800. In the very least, it would be nice to have floating docks, one for each launch pad, to allow a boater to safely and easily load and unload their boat. Floating docks are used worldwide in areas where there are variations in the water level due to tide. It would also be nice to have ample parking on a flat surface, preferably paved. Is there anything in the works to improve this boat launch pad and area, particularly since the Spit will be dismantled and there will be an increased need for boat transit to get out to the kite boarding area? I look forward to hearing back from you. Regards, Doug Lowe</p>	Need for boat launch
	Michael Sharp	25-Oct-21	<p>Hello, I am a resident of Brackendale and have been concerned for years about children walking to and from school on Government road. This is a highly dangerous situation as children are walking very close to fast moving traffic daily. I have spoken to a few different people at district and every one of them was very aware of the issue, however there seems to be no plan to deal with this. This is very concerning as I have seen some of the projects that have moved forward in the last few years, and I would consider some of them to be of far lower priority than the safety of children (and other residents of the area) that use this as a walking path. How do we encourage council to make this a priority as part of the 2022 budget? Thank you. Michael Sharp - 41510 Government Road</p>	Need for sidewalk improvements; Need for sidewalks on Government Road in Brackendale for school kids

	Stefan Lozinsky	22-Oct-21	<p>Council, I am following up on my letter I wrote earlier this year. In that letter I identified the COVID-19 relief grant and asked that some of the funds be allocated for park improvements at the Brennan Park Playground which is inadequate for the number of kids in the surrounding neighbourhoods. I see that a portion of the funds from the COVID-19 relief grant that were earmarked for 'covered structures' have in fact been spent on covered structures (reportedly \$220K). I am extremely disappointed that this is how the money was spent. There are easily over 100 kids in this neighbourhood, not to mention all the people that travel to Brennan Park every day to visit the recreation centre and play sports. I encourage you to go look at the playground at Brennan Park. A fraction of the money spent on covered structures could have made a huge difference here. Thank you, Stefan Lozinsky</p>		Brennan Park playground improvements needed; covered shelters are a poor use of public funds
	Brennan Covey	09-Nov-21	<p>Dear Mayor and Council, I write this letter regarding the turn off and access road to the soccer turf fields in Squamish. My child loves soccer and is playing with a travel team that is part of the volunteer-run Squamish Youth Soccer Association. His experience with his team has been exceptional, and his volunteer coaches and team manager are doing an amazing job. Every other weekend we travel to a different location in the lower mainland to play against other kids his age. This travelling experience has really opened my eyes to what other communities are investing in youth and recreation compared to Squamish. Every weekend, teams from all over the lower mainland come to Squamish and have to try and figure out which tiny gated driveway on Loggers Lane will lead to the turf fields, with only inadequate signage to give them a last minute hint of where to turn. Even worse, our lower mainland guests have to squeeze one at a time through an unnecessary gate that's always open and then drive the terrible pot-holed gravel road to the turf parking lot. This road is worse than any backcountry logging road I have driven on in the past 15 years. I am embarrassed for Squamish and that visitors from other places see how poorly our community invests in recreation and youth. The turf fields have been in place for about 15 years. From Monday to Friday there are at least 3 teams practicing every hour between 4pm to 10pm. If there are an average of 12 kids per team the number of pick-ups and drop-offs is 504 per day and 3,528 per week, not including weekends. This is a conservative estimate as some nights there are more than 3 teams practicing at one time. The turf access road may be one of the highest use roads in the District. I anticipate that 'the party line' for the horrible state of the road is to say that it's too expensive to properly grade and pave this short road, but considering how many times that road has to be graded each year, I believe that properly building this road in the first place would have been less costly than the ongoing maintenance costs to keep re-grading it. As well, I've seen the film industry use this road and park many heavy duty vehicles in the gravel area next to the turf fields so evidently the District is getting film permit fee revenue from this road. I am skeptical that this is a cost issue - it seems more likely there have been near-sighted management decisions made over the years emphasizing that recreational infrastructure investment isn't a priority. I have lived here since 1982. For many years the excuse for not investing in recreation was that there wasn't enough people or density to afford it. Squamish certainly has the people and density now, but I don't see where reinvestment into the community is occurring. Is it all going to the Oceanfront? That would not be fair to the rest of our town. I've been to many other small mountain towns that do a much better job than Squamish in investing in recreation and infrastructure for youth, and I don't understand why Squamish continually struggles so badly to do the same. I love Squamish and would really like to have pride in our town. Unfortunately, I know that I'm going to be embarrassed this weekend as people from other communities bring their kids to play soccer here, and see the poor job we do now. I urge Council to improve the intersection and pave</p>		Need for improvements to turf field road at Brennan Park
			<p>(Brennan Covey Cont.) the access road to the turf fields as soon as possible. Yours truly, Brennan Covey</p>		

			<p>Hello Squamish Council, I'm not one for speaking out, but today I've had it. I had the misfortune of spending hours of my time today at the ice arena, the pool and the soccer field and I've completely had it with this district's complete incompetence when it comes to our Recreational facilities. Whoever is in charge of our facilities should be fired. I'm serious. My 2 school aged boys play both hockey and soccer. We use the pool. They are in BMX. We do it all. I volunteer to manage their sports teams, I'm a volunteer on the SMHA board this year, my husband coaches soccer and hockey. We are your typical Squamish family. We moved here 11 years ago so our kids would be raised somewhere with a sense of community. Today I am embarrassed to call Squamish home. How can we seriously be inviting teams to come and play sports in this town? It is laughable! Our bleachers in the hockey arena have been closed because of a fire exit issue since the beginning of COVID! We host games for the Bears zone team that draw a crowd of 150 spectators... all of them standing around one end of the ice rink trying to get a glimpse of the game. My own father with Parkinson's cannot even come watch his grandsons play hockey because he can't sit anywhere and actually see the game. The entire reason my parents moved here was to be part of their grandkids lives and watch their grandchildren's sports. As volunteers we are DONE with the verbal abuse we are taking constantly because this district has absolutely not prioritized youth sports or our facilities in so long that they are in dismal shape. The volunteers, the parents, and the kids are embarrassed to host games. I don't want to volunteer anymore. We have visiting teams changing in the arena hallways asking us why nothing has been done about our change rooms in all this time. Parents from other teams are yelling at us about why we are asking for vaccine passports and masking, just to turn around and cram them into one tiny area of our arena where they are standing shoulder to shoulder. Have any of you tried to drive your car to the beautiful turf soccer pitch lately?? You'd be paying for repairs if you did the potholes are so bad. Not to mention this town has already outgrown the ONE turf soccer pitch it's invested in... which sits right beside a completely unused gravel field. Why on earth were both not done at the same time??!! Oh, and enjoy the outhouse while you're there. Great state of the art facility we have, without even a flushing toilet or change room anywhere. At least the soccer field gets an outhouse though. The BMX track doesn't even get that. Nope, we just have a line up of little boys peeing in the bush beside the track at the beginning of every race night. I'm not like this. I'm not a complainer. I'm not someone who lashes out at our council for every little thing. I've written in twice in 11 years. Once when my son almost got killed on his way to school because apparently residential neighbourhoods don't need sidewalks in Squamish.... And the second time is today because I am done. If my kids did not have so many friends here we would be moving, because I don't see any improvement in any of our facilities in sight. The public skate today was completely packed with parents standing around everywhere making it impossible for the 35+ Hockey kids and their parents to get through the arena to the teeny tiny change rooms to prepare for practice... yes, that's right, I said 35 kids at ONE practice. Because we don't have enough ice to make more manageable practice groups. We are also required to be checking vaccine passports for all of our hockey parents, but we have no support. No way to make this actually achievable in this facility. While one son was on the ice today my other son was supposed to go swimming... a normal thing in a community rec centre on a weekend right? Nope, not in Squamish. He got to wait an entire 45 minutes to access the pool. By the time he got in there, my other son was finished practice and it was time to go. I have participated in survey, after survey, after survey since my kids were born 8 and 10 years ago. I spoke out about the large cohorts of kids coming up. I highlighted the need to plan ahead. There is no action here. There is absolutely no desire by this council, this district, to support our community based activities. Where are all the people supposed to go??!!</p>		<p>Need for Brennan Park upgrades; Need for improvements to turf field road at Brennan Park; Brennan Park fire exit repairs; washrooms needed at Brennan Park fields; wellness centre needed; new pool needed; ice rink change room upgrades needed; Need for sidewalk improvements</p>
	Kristy Scorda	07-Nov-21	<p>(Kristy Scorda Cont.) Do you know that there is not one place in this town you can go and just pay a reasonable drop in fee to lift some weights?? Our youth centre has been closed for a year now. Where are they all supposed to go? None of these developers are putting in any parks, no basketball courts, no tennis courts, no playgrounds, nothing. Our kids are NOT ok. They are suffering the highest rates of anxiety and depression ever. They have been through hell these last 2 years. Kids need things to do. They need places they belong. They need places they can gather. Sports provide that. Facilities provide that. Why is this not the case in Squamish? Thanks for reading, Kristy Scorda</p>		
			<p>Mayor and Council, We appreciate the excellent display put up at the 55 concerning the 2022 budget discussions. What appears to be missing is a line item for The 55 net operations cost. We consider this to be important inasmuch we have been given a wide range of figures over the years. Ranging from \$194,803 in 2021 provided by then Director of Parks and Recreation, Janet Gugins to \$259,409 provided by Natasha Golbeck, General Manager Community Services on Sep 24, 2020, to \$434,000 in Oct 2020 on the webpage <a href="https://squamish.ca/rec/recreation-facilities/the55/seniors-centric-space-a-priority-for-district-of-squamish/">https://squamish.ca/rec/recreation-facilities/the55/seniors-centric-space-a-priority-for-district-of-squamish/</a>The relevant documents are attached for your information. We believe you will agree that both, our Society and the Public, should know the actual net cost of operating The 55. Best regards, Herbert Vesely, President Squamish Seniors Centre Society</p>		<p>Need to know the net cost of operating The 55</p>
	Herbert Vesely	18-Nov-21			
			<p>Hello, I am a Brackendale family member with two kids, 4 and 6, who both attend Brackendale school for Preschool and Grade 1 respectively. We do our best to bike to school as much as possible to reduce pollution, promote an active lifestyle and leave the few available parking spots for those that need it. Unfortunately Government Road is very unsafe for pedestrians and it has come to our attention that this "may" be addressed only on 2023. Please consider placing this on a higher priority. Let's not wait for a tragic accident for change to happen. Thank you for your consideration, A concerned citizen, Corina Tezcan</p>		<p>Need for sidewalk improvements; Need for sidewalks on Government Road in Brackendale for school kids</p>
	Corina Tezcan	29-Oct-21			
			<p>I do not think a sidewalk in Brackendale is the solution. In response to a guy named Mike's petition sent out in the candy bags tonight. A bigger bike lane perhaps, and something so people don't park in it, like the barriers north of depot. But not a sidewalk.</p>		<p>Bigger bike lane needed on Government Road in Brackendale; Preventative measure needed to stop people from parking in Government Road bike lane in Brackendale</p>
	Tara McKone	31-Oct-21			

	Spero Moukas	29-Oct-21	Hello Squamish Council, I live in Brackendale and my 2 children attend Brackendale Elementary. Requesting the section of Government Rd. section to be upgraded as part of the 2022 budget. Concerned Parent, Spero Moukas		Need for sidewalks on Government Road in Brackendale for school kids
	Squamish Environment Society	05-Oct-21	Dear Mayor and Council: Our bylaws and our OCP say we need to create and support habitat connectivity. So far, road blocks have limited our progress. These road blocks include uncertainty about what habitat connectivity means, how to implement it, what data is available and what steps we need to take. The attached report provides a road map to implementation. It outlines four costed phases with the first phase already complete. The report identifies stakeholders, available datasets, potential methodologies, and potential resources. It provides detail on benchmark communities where habitat connectivity has been successfully implemented. It also describes many current projects and initiatives that will help us move forward. We ask that you approve staff's budget request for \$40,000 to undertake phase 2 - Scoping. We will do what we can to support you. Thanks. Carl Halvorson, Rachel Shephard, Judith Holm, Gwen L'Hirondelle On behalf of the members of the Squamish Environment Society		Establish wildlife corridors within District
	Parkhouse Strata Council	22-Nov-21	<p><i>Part 1:</i> Dear District of Squamish Council &amp; Staff, Please find attached a letter from the Parkhouse Strata concerning the pickleball courts and noise issues. This letter has been endorsed by our strata council and is written on behalf of the residents of the Parkhouse building located next to the pickleball courts. We understand there is an upcoming budget meeting, and we respectfully ask that funding be allocated to relocate the pickle ball courts to an area of town that is further from nearby residences, to reduce the impact on the well-being of neighbouring residents. Also, I wanted to share a link to an article outlining a similar situation in Port Moody, where in the end the district ended up relocating their pickle ball courts to a more suitable location: Pickleball is becoming more popular, but it's got a problem - Tri-City News (<a href="https://www.tricitynews.com">tricitynews.com</a>) (<a href="https://www.tricitynews.com/local-sports/these-games-are-loud-port-moody-pickleball-neighbours-revolt-against-rising-stress-anxiety-3662369">https://www.tricitynews.com/local-sports/these-games-are-loud-port-moody-pickleball-neighbours-revolt-against-rising-stress-anxiety-3662369</a>)</p> <p>I've also attached an excerpt from the presentation that was made to the Port Moody Council regarding the acoustics of pickle ball and its impacts on the well-being of neighbouring residents, as well as a detailed acoustic analysis of the noise produced by pickleball which was included in the Port Moody presentation (beginning on page 7 of the PDF attached). This is an issue of significant concern for the Parkhouse residents living directly adjacent to the pickleball courts, as it has a significant impact on their health and well-being. We thank you for your consideration in this matter. Sincerely, Sean Soper President, Parkhouse Strata Council 1150 Bailey Street</p> <p><i>Part 2:</i> Dear District of Squamish Council &amp; Staff, I am writing to you on behalf of the Parkhouse Strata to voice concerns over the noise created by the new pickle balls courts, and to request that the DOS consider relocating the courts to a less densely populated area of town that is further from nearby residences. Although there are a handful of residents who enjoy playing pickle ball and are pleased to have the courts nearby, based on the feedback received by our strata council from our residents, the vast majority of residents in our building are adversely affected by the noise created by the pickle ball courts. The noise produced over the years from the tennis courts was significantly less due to the nature of the game (softer ball &amp; racquet producing much less noise) as well as the volume of players (a maximum of 8 tennis players vs a maximum of 24 pickle ball players). The odd pickle ball game over the years (players brining their own net) was not a major concern, but now the volume of players combined with the level of noise created by the hard racquet hitting the hard ball has increased the total volume of noise exponentially. The excessive noise is waking residents up in the morning, and is having an impact on the daily lives of those living here (disrupting those working from home, babies sleeping, shift workers sleeping, and the overall peace and quiet that residents used to enjoy here). While we are in favour of healthy active living and community sport, we believe that this particular form of recreation would be best located in an area of town that is not so close to residences, to reduce the potential for noise impact on those living nearby. Perhaps the courts at Brennan Park would be a more suitable location, for example, where the existing courts are located much further away from nearby residents (approximately 4 times the distance away from the nearest residences), and with a roadway and trees to help buffer the noise. While we commend the DOS for investing in community recreation and sport, we respectfully request that the DOS consider moving the pickle ball courts to a more suitable location, and reinstate the tennis courts which were utilized and enjoyed by many in the community with significantly less impact on those living next them.</p>		Move pickleball courts from Eaglewind to Brennan Park

	Herbert Vesely	25-Nov-21	<p>Mayor and Council, On behalf of the Seniors Centre Society I spoke at the budget meeting last Tuesday about the significant hardship the substantial increases in our property taxes presents to Seniors on fixed incomes. I failed to give you specific figures and that may be the reason why no one from council or staff ventured to respond. Here are the statistics – the increases during the period 2006 to 2020 were: Squamish property taxes, excluding Utilities rose, for our modest single family house in Valleycliffe, at an average annual rate of 4.79%. By comparison the Canadian CPI, as provided by the Feds, rose only 1.64% average annually. Consequently property taxes increased over this fourteen year period by a rate that is 54% greater than the CPI indexed Canada Pension income. If you want to see my spreadsheet with the calculations I will share it with you. Perhaps you will agree that such a wide divergence is not sustainable on a permanent basis. I urge you to reverse this trend by closely examining staff's justification for the currently proposed budget. Herbert Vesely, President Squamish Seniors Centre Society</p>	Limit tax increases
Coffee with Council Summary Comments	A summary of all comments received across each of the 4 coffee meetings	Oct 28, Nov 4, Nov 10, Nov 18	Questions about Mamquam Road and the related construction issues	Mamquam Road construction issues
			District staff reorganization and aspects which relate to service level changes in regards to staffing	Service level changes related to District staffing
			Need for a boat launch	Need for a boat launch
			Need to establish wildlife corridors within District	Establish wildlife corridors within District
			Lack of access to The 55 Activity Centre for seniors and upset about the amount of access the Squamish Arts Council has been granted. There should also be the ability to get a liquor licence at The 55.	Access to the 55; liquor licence for The 55