



## May 2019 Update

# Burnside Gorge

### In Your Neighbourhood

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#### **My Great Neighbourhood Grant Spring Intake**

The Spring intake for the My Great Neighbourhood Grants has now closed. Of the 30 applications received, two were from the Burnside Gorge neighbourhood, both in the Placemaking category. Grant applications will be reviewed by an interdepartmental team and then forwarded to Council for approval via staff report in June.

#### **Point Ellice Bridge Construction**

The [Point Ellice Bridge](#) is now closed to vehicle traffic in the eastbound direction (towards downtown) until approximately the end of October. The closure is necessary to safely complete comprehensive upgrades to the bridge.

The \$6.1 million project includes repairs to the concrete deck, rust protection of the steel, resurfacing the bridge deck and stripping and painting the steel on the underside of the bridge. Changes will be made to traffic signal operations at the adjacent Johnson Street Bridge to help accommodate the increased traffic.

Pedestrian and wheelchair access will be maintained during the project. Eastbound cyclists must dismount and walk their bikes across with pedestrians. Full bridge closures are not planned, but may be necessary on occasion during the project.

For more information visit: [www.victoria.ca/pointellicebridge](http://www.victoria.ca/pointellicebridge).

#### **Horse Carriages Downtown**

Council recently discussed a [report](#) and resolutions presented by Councillor Isitt proposing that a schedule for phasing out horse carriages by 2023 be developed. As an alternative, investigation of opportunities for “e-carriages” was suggested.

Council decided to bring the prospective motions below back to Council for discussion after hearing from a delegation from the BCSPCA presents to Council at a future Council meeting.

The deferred motions were: that Council refers the following resolution to the next Quarterly Update, with staff providing information on the resource implications of proceeding with the action outlined

1. That Council amends the Strategic Plan 2019-2022 to include the new 2020 action: “Develop regulations to phase out commercial horse-drawn carriage operations on city streets by 2023, providing adequate notice to operators, employees and members of the public.”
2. The Council encourages collaboration between industry, the City and provincial regulators to pursue innovation in electric-powered vehicles for hire, to provide ongoing and enhanced opportunities for experiential tourism, employment and economic development.
3. That Council refers the recommendations in the letter received by Council on May 28, 2018 and July 25, 2018, to staff to inform revisions to regulations and policies between now and 2023.

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CITY OF VICTORIA | BURNSIDE GORGE

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### **Inclusionary Housing and Amenities**

On April 11, Council approved the policy in a [staff report](#) providing an update to Council on the Inclusionary Housing and Community Amenity and provided the following direction to staff:

- Apply the Inclusionary Housing and Community Amenity Policy, 2019 to rezoning applications received after April 11, 2019;
- Issue an Expression of Interest to non-profit housing and government agencies to purchase and/or operate inclusionary housing units;
- Monitor the requirements for staff resources needed for policy implementation, administration and monitoring and report back in one year with requests for additional resources as needed;
- Report back on policy results in three years following policy implementation (2022).
- Report back within 6 months with a progress update on the impacts of the policy to date.

### **Expanding Public Transit Ridership**

On April 28, Council approved a [Council member motion](#) requesting endorsement of a resolution regarding climate action through a major expansion of public transit ridership. Council's resolutions included:

- Embracing determined climate leadership through a major expansion of public transit ridership in the Capital Region, focused on the phasing out of user fees and a substantial improvement in service levels and fleet electrification.
- Beginning implementing this climate-action policy with a pilot programme in the 2020 budget eliminating user fees for people 18 years of age and younger, replacing revenues currently generated through fares with adjustments to provincial transfers and the property tax requisition.

### **Equity and Crystal Pool**

At their May 23 committee meeting, Council considered a [report](#) and resolutions proposed by Councillors Alto and Dubow for the application of equity and affordability policy analyses in consideration of a future Crystal Pool Facility. The report outlined the Strategic Plan objectives supporting this direction and proposed measures to instill an equity and affordability lens into broader City decision-making.

Council resolved to deter the discussion of proposed resolutions to their June 13 meeting, following a presentation by the North Park Neighbourhood Association on June 6.

### **Childminding at Council Meetings**

As of Thursday, May 9, the City will offer childminding services during Council meetings. Drop off your children, ages 6 months and older, for two hours of child care so you can attend Council meetings! Program leaders will provide a safe and fun environment for children to play games, interact with one another and build crafts.

### **Council Meetings**

Committee of the Whole meets on June 6, 13, 20, and 27 at 9am. Council meets on June 13 and 27 beginning at 6:30pm. Residents can watch recordings of the meetings [here](#).

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