

Hello,

Thanks for your interest in our Community Drop In! Below is a list of topics that members of the public who dropped in requested we discuss and answers to questions from previous drop ins. Please also see actions that I'll follow up on. Staff have apologized for the delay in following up on some of these items and I apologize for the length of this email! Finally, there are also other items of interest that were shared or requested by participants at the Drop In in the "Links" section. The next drop in is **Tuesday June 11th 12:00-1:30pm** in my office at City Hall.

Thanks for participating in our community,

Lisa

Agenda - Community Drop In – May 28th 2019

1. Cruise Ships
2. Accessibility
3. Marginalized population
4. Crystal Pool
5. Potholes
6. Trees Dispensary and Proximity Laws
7. Costs for Small Business
8. Police budget versus municipal leadership
9. Reviving garden week
10. Netzero renovation
11. Childhood Apraxia disorder
12. Rezoning in Fairfield
13. City Vibe

Items Mayor Will Follow Up On:

For Parks Recreation and Facilities: Idea! Could we put Crystal Pool back in the proposed location in Central Park and create useable green space on top of it! See Adelaide Australia Capital Building. Then it would be no net loss and in fact addition of green space.

For Engineering: What is the process for identifying and filling potholes in a systemic and organized way? How do citizen complaints with potholes get deal with? [Here](#) is an idea from South Bend Indiana sent by a drop in participant.

For Mayor's Office (Alison): Connect with Michael from Hemma re: Small Business Roundtable

For Mayor's Office (Alison): Set up Garden Week Meeting.

For Mayor's Office (Alison): Look into conditions at Fairfield Hotel

For Mayor's Office (Rich): Find link to Jack Meredith's Lunch Time Lecture on Household Solar

For Mayor: Follow up on Roll A Mile in My Wheels Campaign and Ability Pride Parade

For Mayor: Make connections requested by participants at the drop in.

For Engineering: When will we be able to easily light up the fountain (or City Hall but fountain is preferable) as part of protocol for marking different weeks eg. Childhood Apraxia Week. Other cities can do this. We are a capital city. We should be able to as well. Will this take a 2020 budget request?

Items the Mayor Has Followed Up On:

Q: Does the library consider internet speeds for public access to be slow? If yes are any plans in the works to improve this?

A: Greater Victoria Public Library provides approximately 200 computers for the public to use across our 12 branch locations. This year our public access computers are scheduled to be refreshed. Our network is managed so that bandwidth is distributed equitably to all locations. At present, we offer high speed Internet access for library computers as well as wifi for those who bring their own devices. Questions about the speed and performance of our network could be related to numerous factors: the amount of bandwidth required for their activities (e.g. streaming content); the number of active windows running simultaneously; the performance of their own devices; their choice of browser, etc.

If a member of the public would like to engage with us directly with questions about a library service, they can reach a staff member by phone at 250-940-4875, in person at any of our 12 locations, or they can reach us via our "Comments and Questions" feedback form at www.gvpl.ca

Q. Residents who live nearby observe that very few people come to a full stop at the stop sign at Superior and St. Lawrence. They wonder if there could be a red flashing light put there as there is at Oswego and Superior.

A. Transportation staff have reviewed this intersection recently and will be installing a marked crosswalk on the south leg to better demark pedestrian space and prioritize their movements through the intersection. The stop signs are conspicuously located and enforceable.

Q. What if any incidents between pedestrians and vehicles have occurred at the Superior and St. Lawrence intersection.

A. The City's Transportation Section uses Collision statistics to help prioritise streets for improvements. The collision data we gather comes from Victoria Police collision reports. We are aware that VicPD may not respond to every reported collision, however, the police reports do represent significant collisions and collisions involving personal injury. In our most current 5 year data set, 2013 to 2017, there was 1 collision total, with no pedestrian involved collisions reported at this intersection.

ICBC reported 5 collisions at the intersection over the same 5 year period; I have provided a link to their public portal to this information. While we don't have all the details, the latest collision reported "at" the intersection involved a vehicle backing out of a near by driveway on Superior.

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/icbc#!/vizhome/VancouverIslandCrashes/VIDashboard>

Q. Can we lower the speed along Superior Street and Oswego Streets to 40 km/h? What would be the process to do so? Have staff given this consideration? Could it be considered as part of the James Bay Neighbourhood Planning process?

A. One of City Council's strategic priorities is to reduce the speed limit to 30 km/hr on neighbourhood streets by 2021. Over the next few years staff will be focusing on this priority. Superior Street is classified as an Arterial, meaning its intended to carry high traffic volumes, service trucks and Transit. It is unclear at this time if Superior would be included in that speed reduction program.

Q: For Engineering (and potentially for Council): Can we ask the Minister of Transportation for a "letter of interpretation" to allow both motorized scooters and Lime scooters and other transportation innovations to use the bike lanes in advance of any changes to the Motor Vehicle Act?

A: The City of Victoria has previously identified a number of issues / topics for the Province of BC to consider when making any legislative changes to the Motor Vehicle Act. Staff are actively engaged in provincial road safety regulations and are mindful of how new mobility services and technologies may impact use, function and safety of roadways. There is no lack of clarity on the rules stated in the Act with respect to allowing electric scooters in the Province of BC (not allowed) or where motorized scooters/wheelchairs should be travelling (on the sidewalk). A letter of interpretation cannot amend the Motor Vehicle Act or authorize what is clearly not permitted under the Act.

Q: For Engineering: Can we have better signage for construction projects (e.g. the signage at the corner of Fairfield and Cook is way too high up for pedestrians to read!) and also for construction impacts for pedestrians, road crossings, etc. The feeling is that all the work happening in Cook Street Village isn't clear.

A: We will share your suggestions with our engagement department. The City typically posts information signs (like the one attached), in addition to standard orange / black construction signage. The location and placement of signs are dictated by the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control devices for safety and consistency in communities across BC, however we appreciate the need for tailored, pedestrian-oriented project information that conveys some of the impacts associated with the work. Details on a number of the City's major construction initiatives are shared with community associations and can be found on our website at www.victoria.ca

Q: Can we have correspondence between the Transit Commission and the Minister re: Highway #1 Bus Lanes?

A: Attached.

Links shared or requested at drop in

Rick Hansen #EveryoneEverywhere Campaign (including whole note for background)



Dear Mayor Helps,

In honour of the 32nd anniversary of the end of the Man In Motion World Tour and the federal governments' declaration of National AccessAbility Week next week, RHF has launched a new awareness campaign today called **#EveryoneEverywhere** to raise awareness of the critical importance of improving accessibility.

The timing of #EveryoneEverywhere is ideal, especially in light of our demographics. One in five Canadian adults is currently living with a disability and our population of seniors is growing. Accessibility and inclusion are increasingly important factors when it comes to budgeting for, designing and planning infrastructure, transit, workplaces, housing, the entertainment and hospitality sector and medical facilities – basically every aspect of our communities.

Awareness also leads to action, including participation in accessibility ratings. These ratings help building owners understand how to better employ and serve people with both permanent and temporary disabilities affecting their mobility, vision and hearing. See more in today's interview with Rick in the [CBC Morning Live](#).

I encourage you to visit the [campaign web page](#).



Together we can ensure everyone can go everywhere!

Sincerely,
Aparna

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Lisa Helps, City of Victoria Mayor

Lekwungen Territory

250-661-2708

www.lisahelpsvictoria.ca

“Grown-up politics means accepting the tensions and complexities of our lives together without pretending there are easy solutions, universal rules ... That means relearning the habits of complexity against the siren calls of a soundbite, quick-fix culture.” - Jonathan Sacks