

Hello,

Thanks for your interest in our Community Drop In! Here is a list of topics that members of the public who dropped in requested we discuss. Please also see actions to follow up on, information received back in response to your queries, and the date of the next Drop In. **Please note that in 2017 we'll be holding the drop ins on Tuesdays instead of Fridays.** You'll find me fresher and more rested earlier in the week! The next **Drop In is 4:30-6:00pm Tuesday March 7th** in my office at City Hall

Agenda - Community Drop In Tuesday February 22

1. Ogden Point Masterplan
2. Sewage
3. Sanctuary City
4. Chattel and Police Role
5. Inappropriate business name
6. Pet housing
7. Confusion in contacting City Hall
8. Needles
9. Non-resident / foreign buyers

Items Mayor will follow up on:

1. Can the JBNA get 10 printed copies of the Ogden Point Masterplan
2. Can someone from the Sewage Project Board go to the March 8 JBNA meeting
3. Follow up with police chief about incident on Douglas Street where person wasn't treated fairly by police
4. Talk with Our Place, BC Schizophrenia Society and Pandora Arts Collective
5. Find out what role the City plays, if any, in regulating the names of businesses; what would the criteria be for turning down a business name?
6. Talk with BC Housing re: pet friendly buildings in BC
7. Share with Island Health the idea of a refund of 10 cents per needle for returned needles

Items Mayor has followed up on:

Q: Kerri someone came to my community drop in looking to replicate the Yates St community garden somewhere else. Do we have access to the class's plans and can they be shared? I look on www.citystudiovictoria.com and didn't find the project reports there. Please send to Danielle when you can. OR better yet, get our new co-op student to track these down and send to Danielle!

A: Our student isn't starting until Feb. 15th, so here's what I can provide immediately and if we need something more we can look further when he starts.

[Growing Community from the Ground Up](#) – from the CityStudio website

Their presentation to Council is in a link

here: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/x8kbwamxtd3z6ne/POLI%20351%20City%20Council%20May%2026%202017.pdf?dl=0>

Here is a brief description for you:

Together with the City of Victoria, Public Policy Analysis: Growing Community From the Ground Up is a collaborative community-building initiative between the University of Victoria, city and greater Victoria community. As a site-specific field school in public policy, students envisioned what a sustainable downtown space could look like by focusing on a property ripe for creative imagination located on Yates Street. Over the course of an intensive three weeks, students learned about local government, participatory policy development, public and community engagement, dialogue and sustainability. The course concluded with a formal presentation to Victoria City Council with the aim of launching Victoria's first downtown community garden, located at the Yates Street site. From a place-making and hazards to assets approach, this course focused on three central themes:

First, during week one, students learned about participatory policy-making and collaborative governance processes at the municipal level. They had an opportunity to meet with City of Victoria staff as well as the Victoria Downtown Resident's Association and learn about preparing briefing materials for policy direction. During the second week, course participants developed skills, techniques and strategies of consultation and engagement. We designed and delivered approaches to community engagement around the Yates Street site. Finally, the third week of the course emphasized and applied principles of sustainable community building by preparing and presenting recommendations to council. Together course participants developed an implementation plan for the Yates Street site with an eye for building a sustainable city that grows community from the ground up.

They can also bring up the video presentation to Council by using the search tool.

Q: Christine can you dig up and send to Danielle the link to the agenda item where we received the input from financial institutions with regard to their green initiatives; it was sent in a pre RFP phase for financial institution to provide services to the City. Sometime in late spring 2016 from what I remember. Thanks!

A: Here is the link to the agenda for the Banking Services Climate Action
Prequestionnaire: <https://victoria.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/96416?preview=111910>

Q: How will the police Assertive Community Team officers pilot project be evaluated?

A: On the day following the motion we started reaching out in an effort to consult with both the Coalition Social Inclusion Advisory Committee (SIAC) as well as the Downtown Service Providers (DSP). We have heard back from both bodies now that they do not want to be involved in this project. SIAC wrote a letter to that effect and today I confirmed with Kathy Stinson, who is the chair of the DSP Board, that they too are taking the same position. I explained to her, as I will expand below to you, what our plans are and she was pleased that to hear that we are taking this approach.

Turning now to the conversation regarding the development of metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of this pilot. As you are aware there have been metrics in place for ACT since its inception in Victoria in 2008. Those metrics, although originally focused on VICOT, have now been expanded to all the teams. One very important piece to consider in the development of any metrics moving forward, is that ACT is a health based program run by Island Health. The clients that are engaged with ACT are in fact Island Health patients that are afforded significant privacy rights as are any patients engaged with the Health

Care System. My point here is that any conversation concerning metrics must include Island Health input.

I have engaged with Island Health on this matter almost immediately after the decision was made to fund the pilot project. Island Health, like us are very open minded about exploring expanded metrics and new ideas as to how ACT can be measured. This is no small undertaking as you can imagine as the ACT programs are complex and of course the Police are only one small (albeit important) part of the teams.

So at this juncture we are brainstorming new ways to measure the effectiveness of the programs. One approach we (police) have considered measuring is as follows:

- Impact on public / community - including impact of policing resources, calls for service, etc.
- Impact on health and mental health systems - hospital visits/admissions, ambulance services, etc.
- Impact on the individual served - satisfaction, time between crisis;

In addition to our thoughts about measurements, we also understand the need to find a way to ensure that neutral metrics could be collected and analyzed through a third party. You are correct that no funding was set aside for this project for the development of third party analyses, research and reporting. This in large part was due to the fact that metrics have already been established and in place. That said and interestingly enough, we had had this conversation well ahead of Councilor Thornton-Joe's motion. Our (Island Health and Police) collective idea is to approach Academia, either through UVIC or possibly SFU and ask for assistance in participating by providing an opportunity for a graduate or post graduate study to analyze, research and develop metrics for ACT which should include an assessment of the efficacy of having police on the teams. One challenge will of course be the fact that this has been extensively researched across all of North America, the UK and Australia and it may be difficult to determine how to expand beyond the metrics already developed through those various studies. That said we could perhaps take a focused look at how ACT is working in the Capital Region and how it is helping the population residing here.

With a third party in place our hope would be that we could move forward and start the project while the evaluation and development of new metrics could occur in a simultaneous and parallel manner. We are currently in conversations with the ACT Manager and Coordinators now in how the addition of these officers create greater opportunities not realized by the teams here in Victoria before. Having had to share one officer has in some ways limited their abilities. With the expanded resources in place we are all very excited how the level of care and treatment to the most severely mentally ill can be improved.

Q: Ask if the noise bylaw is enforceable at Ogden Point when cruise ships are leaving late at night.

A: Further to our conversation regarding ships at Ogden Point we are able to communicate with the GVHA regarding noise concerns while ships are in port. If the concern is the horn going out of port the noise bylaw does not apply. Below is the section from the noise bylaw exempting ship horn.

Exemptions specified

13 This Bylaw does not apply to:

- (a) a vehicle of the Police or Fire Department of the City, or an ambulance or other public service or emergency vehicle while engaged in a service of the public convenience or necessity;
- (b) the sounding of a horn or other signaling device upon any vehicle, boat or train where such sounding is properly and necessarily used as a danger or warning signal;

Q: Can the City develop a campaign for cyclists and pedestrians as part of the roll out of transportation mode shift work to “Be bright, wear white, at night!”

A: Thank you for your suggestion. We will consider this for our upcoming communications for the opening of the new Pandora Avenue cycle track.

Q: Find out if youth are represented on the Truth and Reconciliation Task Force and how the task force members were selected.

A: Youth will be part of the Truth and Reconciliation Task Force, whose members are being chosen with the advice of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. A report will be coming to Council on the Task Force's membership and work plan soon.

Q: Ask if we can make the timing of the cross walk at Cook and Oxford longer so that seniors have enough time to cross the street.

A: The City of Victoria's Transportation Section has recently adopted a new Transportation Association of Canada guideline to increase walk times at traffic signals. We are reviewing traffic signal timings as we work on those signals or hear from residents in our community who are letting us know where they're experiencing difficulty in their travels around town. We will review the traffic signal timings at Cook Street and Oxford Street at our earliest opportunity and make any change needed to bring it into compliance with the new guidelines.

If you have any more questions or comments related to transportation issues in the City, please feel free to contact Richard Adam, Supervisor of Transportation Operations at radam@victoria.ca or 250.361.0326

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Lisa Helps, Victoria Mayor

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“When in doubt do the kindest thing possible.” - Unknown

Thanks for participating in your community!

Lisa

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