

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 12-1:30 Tuesday January 31st at the Cook Street Activity Centre** in Cook Street Village. Note location change.

### **Agenda - Community Drop In Tuesday January 24**

1. Downtown liveability and green space
2. Busking bylaws
3. Support for Emergency Services
4. Financial Transparency
5. Capital City Station
6. Short Term Vacation Rentals
7. Diversity Awareness
8. Coalition to End Homelessness
9. Frown Face
10. Full and empty signs on parkades
11. Conveyancing system for sewage
12. Issuing transient accommodation business licences
13. Seeing Red
14. Biking
15. Schedule J secondary suites

### **Links shared at Drop In:**

Seeing Red - [www.seeingred.org](http://www.seeingred.org)

DJ Daddy Mack - [www.djdaddymack.com](http://www.djdaddymack.com)

### **Items Mayor will follow up on:**

1. Ask staff to meet with Downtown Residents Association to address downtown liveability
2. DCC Bylaw for green spaces in the downtown - can these be set aside into parks acquisition fund
3. Ask about the process for insisting on new broadband beepers for reversing garbage trucks downtown early in the mornings (Whistler, Delta and UVIC have already done this)
4. Find out whether Capital City Station has had a fire inspection
5. Connect Leadership Victoria team members Gina and Nathan with Chief Manak re: Diversity Awareness video
6. Ask whether we are installing parkade counters at the Broughton and Centennial Square Parkades this year and if not, when?
7. Ask whether, as a paper saving measure, it would be possible to set the parkade machines to not issue tickets as people enter the parkades after 6pm and on Sundays.
8. Ask whether as a matter of course the City can move to rounded rather than square curbs (as recently done on Pembroke Street between Gladstone and Fernwood). Increases accessibility and may be cheaper.
9. Ask when Schedule J Secondary Suite Regulations are coming back to Council for consideration.

10. 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!”

**Items Mayor has followed up on:**

**Q - Is there any way to mitigate the disruption of Fisgard Street traffic being blocked as people are turning left (heading east) on Fisgard Street into the Centennial Square Parkade?**

A - Staff are reviewing the operation at the parkade and will include summary of the issue and potential solutions in the February 2017 parking review update for Council’s consideration. For example, there may be opportunities for improved entry operations (faster gates, or other technology).

**Q: Send drawings for Belleville Street improvements between the Coho and Clipper Terminal and ask when in 2017 we will be doing these improvements. Ask whether the crosswalk could be moved from further up the block (heading east) to connect the Coho Terminal with the Days Inn/Belleville’s restaurant as a participant observes people crossing at that spot more than at the crosswalk.**

A: Information on the Belleville Street Improvements project is found on the City’s website at the link below, including the latest drawings. A mid-block crosswalk is proposed in the location suggested by the participant.

<http://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/departments/engineering/transportation-planning/belleville-street-upgrades.html>

**Q : Ask Transit the rationale for calling out all the streets on buses rather than just the stops. Passenger finds it confusing and also confuses for tourist. Also hard to distinguish between similar sounding streets e.g. Fort and Wharf on a crowded noisy bus.**

A: The existing automated call out system is an affordable interim (temporary 2 – 5 years) solution mainly focused towards our blind passengers and is required from a legal human rights standpoint. The current system is designed to orient the passenger to where they are within the geography of the city. For blind passengers, this is extremely valuable.

We also recognize that the existing system has limitations. We have recently received approval to move forward on a funding opportunity with the VRTC, the Province of BC and the Federal Government to upgrade the automated call out system to one that is similar to the Vancouver Translink system and much more usable to a wider customer group. We will be going out to tender very soon in order to give vendors an opportunity to bid, supply and install this new upgraded system to become operational within 18 months to 2 years. The upgrades will include fully automated bus stop annunciating, real time next bus arrival information and other functionality that will enable it to tie into a smart phone app.

**Q: Send details about / map of proposed Transit routes for James Bay Transit**

A: I have attached the James Bay Local Area Transit Plan Update.

**Q: Send the City's Official Community Plan report out with number of affordable housing units built over last four years.**

A: Some housing stats as requested. PDF links to the referenced reports are below.

We won't have reports that include 2016 until later this year; however from 2012-2015 there were:

- 306 new **affordable** housing units that received funding through the housing reserve (Annual Housing Report p. 7)
- 2634 **net** new housing units by building permits issued (new units less demolitions) including 567 new purpose built rental units. (OCP Annual Review pp. 10 and 24). Note net new housing unit numbers do not identify which are affordable vs market.

[Annual Housing Report](#)  
[2016 OCP Annual Review](#)

**Q: See what programs Community Centres have for youth and see if these can be listed together in one place**

**Q: See what programs Crystal Pool has for youth and how these programs are developed**

A: The City of Victoria Recreation Department publishes 2 Active Living Guide's annually – Fall/Winter and Spring Summer. Each Guide has a full listing of offerings and descriptions of programs, courses, classes and events hosted at the Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre as well as all the Community Centres. The listings are grouped either by activity or target demographic and include location, dates, times and cost.

In addition to the annual ALG, Crystal Pool and many of the other Centres produce marketing material for seasonal offerings and school break periods, which would be distributed through multiple channels and posted on applicable websites.

<http://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/departments/parks-rec-culture/recreation.html> has a link to the Active Living Guide as well as individual Community Centre websites.

Programs are developed through a number of strategies – community need, public feedback/request, niche opportunities, trends, skill development, best practices and partnerships. Research is conducted in various forms to assess need, and all programs are reviewed upon conclusion to determine feasibility, viability etc.

Thanks for participating in your community!

Lisa

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"We're all just walking each other home." - Rumi