



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 24, 2019

7:00 p.m.

Wurtele Room, Municipal Hall

PRESENT: Waheema Asghar – Chair
Lorne Argyle
Paul Helston
Susan Low
Councillor Lynda Hundleby (Council Liaison)

STAFF: Tricia deMacedo, Planner 2 (Staff Liaison)
Bill Brown, Director of Development Services / Recording Secretary

REGRETS: Ronn Stevenson – Vice-Chair
Brenda Bolton
Louise Blight
Councillor Ken Armour (Council Liaison)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Asghar called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Lorne Argyle and seconded by Susan Low that the agenda be approved as presented. **CARRIED.**

4. MINUTES

(1) Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting, November 22, 2018

Moved by Lorne Argyle and seconded by Paul Helston that the minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of November 22, 2018 be approved as presented. **CARRIED.**

5. NEW BUSINESS

(1) Referral from Council for Review and Feedback: Letter from Larisa Hutcheson, Parks & Environmental Services, Capital Regional District, dated December 20, 2018, Re: Capital Region Local Government Electric Vehicle and Electric Bike Infrastructure Planning Project

Staff Liaison, provided an overview of the report entitled Capital Region Local Government Electric Vehicle (EV) + Electric Bike (E-Bike) Infrastructure Planning Guide Prepared by the Watt Consulting Group.

Generally, the report describes how and where to install EV infrastructure. A survey was conducted, which was filled out by about 600 people as well as developers. The number one barrier to purchasing an electric vehicle is cost. Next is range anxiety. The consultants developed a model of the CRD based on location criteria. Variables included: density of population, land use mix, commercial mix, exposure to traffic. The model generated maps showing proposed locations for charging stations. The report contains recommendations where the chargers should go, with one location for a level 2 charger being in the Esquimalt Town Square.

The report identifies the following roles for Local Government:

- 1) Electrify fleet,
- 2) Provide charger station, and
- 3) Require developers to install chargers.

Developers supported electric vehicle charging requirements, as long as there is a level playing field with one-third already installing electrical charging stations. It is important to future proof buildings.

Committee Comments included:

- E-bike sales are going through the roof and are growing faster than EVs.
- E-bike security is an issue; people want bike lockers.
- Electric scooters are becoming an issue; where will the scooters drive?
- Advantage to have bike lockers at multi-family dwellings.
- Theft and security are a huge barrier to purchasing an e-bike.
- E-bike charging is not that important since the battery can be charged at a regular outlet.
- The public is more interested in storage.
- For private more interest in charging.

Moved by Susan Low and seconded by Lorne Argyle that the Township encourage developers to provide secure storage for bikes in commercial and multi-family residential developments. **Carried**

6. REPORTS FROM STAFF LIAISON

(1) Checkout Bag Bylaw

Staff Liaison, provided an overview of the Checkout Bag Bylaw. She stated it is basically identical to the City of Victoria's bylaw, and provides for a number of exemptions. She reviewed the proposed timeline and justification of the proposed charges.

Committee Comments included:

- Discussion about the negative environmental impacts of large paper bags.
- These types of bylaws are becoming common.
- Victoria and Saanich have led the way.
- There is no need for a grace period.

Moved by Susan Low and seconded by Paul Helston that the Environmental Advisory Committee recommend that Council make January 1, 2020 the implementation date and remove the phase in and grace period as described in the draft bylaw. **Carried**

(2) Green Building Checklist

Staff Liaison, provided an overview of the proposed revisions to the Green Building Checklist. Questions are now check or not check which makes it much easier to assess the degree to which a developer is incorporating green building features into a proposed development. Green building initiatives that are no longer special (e.g. low flow toilets) have been removed. The bar has been set higher. Required items (e.g. the building has to be pre-plumbed for solar) are now identified. A wider protection zone for native vegetation has been included.

Committee Comments included:

- Would like to see guidelines related to accessibility added to allow aging in place (e.g. wall anchors, 33 inch doors, pocket doors, bedroom on main floor, barn doors).
- Discussion about increasing the setbacks from water courses (e.g. implementing the Riparian Area Regulation).

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Lorne Argyle and seconded by Susan Low that the meeting be adjourned at 8:49 pm. **Carried**

Ronn Stevenson, Vice-Chair
This 28th day of March, 2019

Certified Correct:

Anja Nurvo, Corporate Officer