

Municipality of North Cowichan
Committee of the Whole
ADDENDUM AGENDA

January 26, 2021

Pages

1. PUBLIC INPUT

The following public input was received by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 25, 2021. Submissions are listed below under the agenda item they are in relation to. If a submission has referenced multiple agenda items, it is included under each agenda subject and noted as a duplicate. The author's personal information is not relevant and has been redacted from the document prior to publishing.

- 1.1. Email received in relation to item 4.1 Official Community Plan (OCP) Growth Management**

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Ginny Gemmell

From: [REDACTED] FIPPA s.22(1)
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2021 10:57 AM
To: Agenda
Subject: Comments from the Bell McKinnon residents regarding the Growth Management Strategy Process

Thank you for considering the following points about the hospital zone within the Bell McKinnon Local Area Plan when considering a new Growth Management Plan for North Cowichan:

- Although without fanfare, the provincial government has confirmed the new \$887 million Cowichan District Hospital is now underway – right in our neighborhood on Bell McKinnon Road. Land clearing will begin next year and this massive mega-project will change our lives and our neighborhood forever. Our much-loved paradise of trees and owls and bears will be turned into round-the-clock construction and ultimately the lights and sirens and perpetual bustle of a busy regional hospital. This will negatively impact all of us living here. However, the hospital HAS to go somewhere. Some folks may stay and some may go but life will never be the same as we transition to the vision articulated in the Bell McKinnon Local Area plan.
- The LAP was a bylaw requirement for the rezoning of the hospital lands. The LAP was developed with comprehensive engagement and support of residents on the BMC and throughout the Cowichan Valley and, after unanimous Council approval, won Gold for Excellence in Policy Planning from the Planning Institute of British Columbia in 2019. The LAP created a vision for our neighborhood that won local support for the hospital.
- Today, Council will consider a Growth Management policy that will have a fundamental impact on the BMC. There is speculation that although the hospital will proceed, that the Growth Management policy will be developed in a manner to exclude development around the hospital. This would be a serious breach of trust. If BMC residents had been told the LAP would ultimately not be followed there would have been strong opposition to the hospital.
- To ensure this does not happen, I respectfully request that Council *specifically* identify the Bell McKinnon Corridor as one of the areas targeted for growth under scenario #3 as articulated in Modus Memo to NC dated January 19, 2021.

Thank you for your time to consider these points



FIPPA s.22(1)