



175 Ingram Street
Duncan, BC V9L 1N8
www.cvr.bc.ca

Office: 250.746.2500
Fax: 250.746.2513
Toll Free: 1.800.665.3955

April 28, 2023

File: 3720-80

Mayor Rob Douglas and Council
Ted Swabey, Chief Administrative Officer
District of North Cowichan
7030 Trans-Canada Highway
DUNCAN BC V9L 6A1

Dear Mayor Rob Douglas and Council:

Re: CVRD Regional Planning

The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) Board, at its regular meeting of February 22, 2023, considered a staff report on the merits of establishing a regional planning service. The Board resolved (23-69):

"That a letter be sent to municipal councils inviting input on the potential establishment of a regional planning service."

While the CVRD and each member municipality currently provides community and land use planning services, there are opportunities for coordination on regionally-significant matters such as housing, transportation, climate change and reconciliation. We recognize the prior effort that the CVRD and partners have made in developing the Cowichan 2050 Regional Collaboration Framework and Regional Housing Needs Assessment, and positive outcomes of this work. However, we also recognize that if there is interest to continue regional planning efforts, a formal structure is needed, with dedicated resources and funding. The attached staff report provides further context.

At this early stage in the process, the CVRD Board is requesting that municipal councils consider the potential for regional planning and provide comments to support the Board in its deliberations on this topic. Once this feedback has been received, the Board will consider the feasibility of advancing regional planning, and explore options respecting resources and funding.

We look forward to engaging in this important discussion.

Sincerely,


Aaron Stone
Chair

AS/CB/lkp

Attachment

pc: Rob Conway, Director of Planning