Regional District of Nanaimo
Summary of the Electoral Area 'A' Cedar Main Street Design Project
Citizen's Advisory Group Meeting Held on Monday, April 16, 2012 at 7:00pm
At the Cedar United Church
1644 Cedar Road

Alec McPherson	Advisory Group Chair
Sharon Brown	Advisory Group Member
Howie Adan	Advisory Group Member
Margaret Mills	Advisory Group Member
Mayta Ryn	Advisory Group Member
Sheri Duchane	Advisory Group Member
Adriana Wilson-Busby	Advisory Group Member
Bonnie Stevenson	Advisory Group Member
Rick Hastings	Advisory Group Member
Rick Hyne	Advisory Group Member
Angela Vincent-Lewis	Advisory Group Member
Greg Keller	Senior Planner
Kim Farris	Recording Secretary

The following is a summary of the proceedings and does not represent a verbatim account of the meeting.

Meeting Started 7:07pm

Introduction
Round table introductions

Project Overview
Greg Keller presented a brief background on the project and then went over the 14 design ideas generated at the Community Design Charrette.

The following is a brief point form summary of the comments, questions, and discussion.

Design Idea #1 – Alternate route
- Is the boundary of the plan between McMillan road and Hemer Road?
- Why would there be a bypass- could you use Woobank Hemer Road instead?
    - Greg Keller explained that its more about if the community wants a bypass not where – the focus is on the concept at this time.
- It is confusing to detour in the community.
- The money should go towards other items in the community, not a detour.
- It will turn quiet residential into bypass.
- Would rather see the money spent on traffic calming.
- The Bypass would go right around the commercial area.
- Who's decision is it?

- o Greg Keller explained that for the purpose of this project our role is to determine if there is community support for a bypass. If there is, the RDN would discuss the concept with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.
- -Why have a bypass?
  - o Greg Keller explained that it was an idea brought up by a community member. A bypass could help to justify a reduced speed limit through Cedar Main Street, alleviate traffic during highway incidents, and provide opportunities for on street community events.

Design Idea #2 – Preserve rural character of larger lots
- -Would trees be cut down if road is widened?
  - o It was suggested that some trees may be cut down if they are in the road right of way and can not be accommodated.

Design Idea #3 – York Lake Wetlands
- Create pedestrian walk behind commercial area to protect from traffic on Cedar Road.

Design Idea #4 – Village Square
- Who owns the property in the sketch?
  - o Greg Keller explained that the focus of this project is on the vision rather than land ownership at this time.

Design Idea #5 – Commercial Development Embraces Natural Aspects (missed in presentation)

Design Idea #6 – Anglican Church
- It would provide a space for the community to gather.

Design Idea #7 – Redevelopment of Private Property
- Historically there was mix-used along Cedar Road.

Design Idea #8 – Maximum of Three Stories
- Alec McPherson discussed firefighting limitations that must be accounted for.

Design Idea #9 - Parking
No discussion.

Design Idea #10 - Roundabouts
- Roundabouts very popular in other communities on the Island.
- People are becoming more comfortable with roundabouts.
- Has MOTI supported roundabouts in the area?

Design Idea #11 – Mixed-use Buildings
No discussion.

Design Idea #12 – Road ROW Improvements
- There are ways to be creative to save the trees – perhaps put the sidewalk on the other side of the trees.

Design Idea #13 – Entry Monument
No discussion.

Design Idea #14 – Architectural Expressions
No discussion.

Other Discussion
- Director McPherson provided a very brief overview of the Fort Langley Building Façade Guidelines. Director McPherson indicated that Fort Langley is a good example for Cedar Main Street.
- Other examples were mentioned including Langford and Aros Road in the CVRD.
- Traffic management and vehicle movement along Cedar Road is a concern.
- Will the Main Street Project get into detail similar to the Fort Langley document?
  - Greg Keller explained that the level of detail will have to be discussed at a later date in the process. Mr. Keller explained that there are pros and cons with having too little or too much detail.
- With respect to the boundaries of Cedar Main Street – Hemer Rd to McMillan Road why is it not to the Nanaimo River Cedar Bridge as the sign area was an entry into Cedar Main Street and there are commercial properties beyond McMillan at Cedar Road.
  - Greg Keller explained that the boundary is not written in stone, but we have to consider factors like walkability. Mr. Keller indicated that there may be opportunities to consider expanding the boundary and supporting a phased approach.
- Safety is a concern for kids along roadways.
- Are the pedestrian areas designated for shoppers or community use?
- -Where is the consideration to sustainability? Especially the use of sustainable materials for structures, sewerage systems, and drainage.

Meeting ended 8:48 pm