



TOWN OF COMOX
Minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee Meeting,
held in Council Chambers on Wednesday September 11, 2024

Present: Mayor N. Minions
Councillors S. Blacklock, K. Grant, C. Haslett,
J. Kerr, J. Meilleur (electronically)

Absent: M. Swift

Staff Present: J. Wall, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Russwurm, Corporate Officer
G. Schreiner, Fire Chief
S. Ashfield, Director of Operations

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

The Agenda was Adopted.

Mayor Minions acknowledged that the Town of Comox is standing on the unceded traditional territory of the K'omoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land.

1. DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES: NIL

2. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES REPORT:

a. Strategic Plan Scorecard

The Strategic Plan Scorecard, dated September 6, 2024, was received.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS: NIL

4. STAFF REPORTS:

b. Climate Action and Economic Development Strategy

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the wording in recommendation 1 be amended to replace 'Industrial Land base' with 'Employment Lands land base,' as follows:

THAT increasing the Town's Employment Lands land base be included as a goal to the Economic Health section of the Town's Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

b. Climate Action and Economic Development Strategy

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

2. That the wording in recommendation 2 be approved as follows:

THAT improving the pedestrian connection between the Marina and Comox Ave including exploring mechanized alternatives be added as a goal to the Economic Health section of the Town's Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

3. That the wording in recommendation 3 be amended to include "such as an annual Economic Development and Tourism forum and a Developer's Forum" as follows:

THAT holding annual forums, such as an annual Economic Development and Tourism forum and a Developer's Forum, with key Stakeholders be included as a goal in the Community Connection and Wellness section of the Town's Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

4. That the wording in recommendation 4 be amended by adding "and incentivizing" as follows:

THAT exploring and incentivizing retail zoning in the downtown be added as a goal to the Economic Health section of the Town's Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

5. That the wording in recommendation 5 be approved as follows:

THAT a floating platform off the breakwater be added to the Economic Health section of the Town's Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

6. That recommendation 6 be approved as follows:

THAT a strategy to consider electrification of the Town's fleet and equipment be added to the Organizational Excellence section of the Town's Strategic Plan.

DEFEATED

7. That the wording in recommendation 6 be amended as follows:

THAT the Town continue to consider electrification of the Town's fleet and equipment where practical and appropriate.

CARRIED

8. That the wording in recommendatrion 7 be approved as follows:

THAT future proofing infrastructure to prepare for climate change and events be included in the Organizational Excellence section of the Town's Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

b. Climate Action and Economic Development Strategy

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

9. That the wording in recommendation 8 be amended to add "in multifamily development" as follows:

THAT increased required bike parking and EV charging capabilities in multifamily development be added to the Balanced Community Planning section of the Town's Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

10. That the wording in recommendation 9 be approved as follows:

THAT the creation of a residential tree planting program be added to the Balanced Community Planning section of the Town's Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

11. That the wording in recommendation 10 be approved as follows:

THAT increasing public awareness of emergency evacuation routes be added to the Community Connection and Wellness section of the Town's Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

12. That the wording in recommendation 11 be approved as follows:

THAT the Town promote retrofit programs and top-ups through its communication channels.

CARRIED

13. That the wording in recommendation 12 be approved as follows:

THAT the Town review its floodplains bylaws and DPA's during the OCP review process.

CARRIED

14. That the addition of recommendation 11 be approved as follows:

THAT the Town of Comox explore acquiring a bee friendly designation to the Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

15. That the addition of recommendation 12 be approved as follows:

THAT the Town explore establishing a Town of Comox Tourism Commission.

CARRIED

5. CORRESPONDENCE:

TOWN OF COMOX - STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**a. Input on Priorities for Economic Development Strategy and Downtown Enhancement
Action Plan 2024-2026 Projects**

Correspondence - BIA

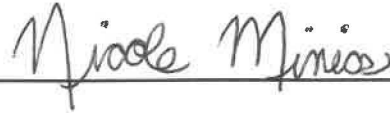
The February 27, 2024 letters from the Comox Business in Action, regarding the establishment of a Comox Tourism Commission and the importance of infill development, were received for information.

Adjournment:

Regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 6:10 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified correct pursuant to Section 97(1)(b) of the Community Charter.



CHAIR