

Admirals Portage Walkshop



O C P U P D A T E - N E I G H B O U R H O O D W A L K S H O P S

Background

We are updating our Official Community Plan (OCP). Last updated in 2011, the Plan provides a long-term vision for the community and provides guidance on future planning and development.

The current OCP has served the Town of View Royal well, so this work will be an update and not a major re-write. Still, there are some important issues and topics that require attention, feedback from the community, and focus in the updated OCP. Some of the key areas that Council and staff identified for additional review include:



Housing Matters. *View Royal housing needs, diversity, and options*



Placemaking. *Neighbourhood centres and urban design*



Preparing for Change. *Climate change and resilience*



Moving Around. *Transportation and the ways we get around*



A Healthy Local Economy. *A more resilient and diverse local economy*



Our Natural Connections. *Parks, protected areas, and shorelines*

The OCP update process is an opportunity to explore these areas (and others) in more detail and to get community feedback on how we can best direct and prepare for change. Two-page backgrounders on these six topics are available on the OCP update project page www.viewroyal.ca. You are encouraged to read these topic backgrounders before attending a walkshop, if you are able.



ABOUT THE WALKSHOPS

From September 21st to 29th, the Town is hosting 1.5 hour walks in five neighbourhoods:

- Admirals Portage
- Harbour / Firehall
- Helmcken
- Hospital
- Island Highway / Casino

The walks are short walking distances to allow plenty of time for discussion.

The purpose of the 'walkshops' is to:

- *Explore key topic areas from a future planning perspective, with Town of View Royal staff*
- *Provide feedback on key issues, opportunities, and challenges from your perspective*

Admirals Portage Walk Route

The Admirals Portage walking loop is designed to highlight a major commercial retail and employment node in View Royal, an interface with Songhees Nation and Esquimalt Nation lands, as well as compact housing close to park space and regional transportation linkages. This route skirts the Thetis Cove property which is proposed to be transferred from the Province to the Esquimalt Nation.

Walking Route Map



AGENDA

This is a 1.5 hour walk (rain or shine). Please arrive ten minutes before the start time you signed up for at 12 noon or 5pm.

Meet at the parking lot at Rexall drug store, located at 1511 Admirals Road. We will:

- Share introductions and review the workshop
- Walk a loop that starts and ends at Rexall drug store and along Thetis Cove
- Pause at spots noted on the map to talk about important issues and topics
- Ask you to write on the map and fill in this form to share your thoughts. Please leave the pages you filled in with the Town staff person.

After the workshop, a 'what we heard' summary report will be prepared. Feedback received will be summarized in that report, however input provided will not be linked with identifying information. To keep informed on the OCP update and see reports, go to the OCP webpage www.viewroyal.ca.

On this walk, we will be discussing the following main topics that we would like your thoughts on:

1. An example of a use which provided 100% of the required parking but which is far more parking than the building requires. It may be beneficial to consider alternate parking standards in certain locations in walkable communities close to public transit and active transportation options.
2. Songhees Nation land.
3. Shopping plaza which functions as a community gathering space. What is the future of sites like this? At some point the buildings will be retired, what additional uses or site design would we like to see? For example, buildings closer to the street, parking underground or behind to create better street presence, and residential above?
4. Tech sector employer, LEED Platinum building—where else in View Royal would uses like this be suitable?
5. This street is used as a trucking route for Esquimalt Nation industrial land to the south. Note sound/visual attenuation wall. User conflicts create the need for creative solutions.
6. View Royal's largest 'missing middle' housing area, good example of density.
7. Thetis Cove property proposed to be transferred to Esquimalt Nation.
8. E&N Rail Trail; unused rail portion included. Note restricted access to pathway. Barrier to pedestrian linkages, private strata roads through the townhouses limits pedestrian permeability even as there are trails through the park. Park trails are a challenge to people with mobility issues. How could these conditions be improved?
9. Portage Park – active and passive components to this park which for many highlights the treed, natural waterfront image of View Royal as something to be proud of.
10. Recent staircase upgrade to improve walkability and park safety and enjoyment.
11. New higher density apartment development replacing marginal detached residences.

What's Your View? In 2040...

Please imagine yourself in 20 years – your personal, family and community needs in 2040, and beyond. What does your future self need for housing? Services? Aging well, or starting out as a young person, in View Royal? How will you and others get around the Town and the region? What kind of policies or actions would best support positive future economic, social, cultural and environmental outcomes? What impacts from climate change are you dealing with?

The Town of View Royal Official Community Plan's purpose is to describe the community's long term vision and policies that will guide future land use decisions. In considering the following questions, please stretch yourself forward 20 years, or more, to help direct View Royal's future that supports well-being, sustainability and resiliency.

Draw a heart, triangle, or star on the map to let us know what things you love, what things you want to see changed, and what you desire for the future!



Things You Love

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-
-
-



Things You Want to See Change

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-
-
-



A Desired Future

-
-
-
-
-
-

Please take a moment to think about and answer these questions while you're out on your walk!

1. What do you like about this neighbourhood and wish to see protected?
2. Do you have concerns about this area that you would like to see addressed?
3. What are your future aspirations? What are your wishes for this neighbourhood? Or for the Town generally?
4. Should we be considering additional housing in this neighbourhood? What kind of housing might be a good fit for adding density this area?
5. What do you think View Royal can do to become more sustainable, resilient, and adapt to climate change?

6. What street do you live on? (optional):



At the end of the walk, please leave the pages you filled in with the Town staff person.