

Section 15 - Community Well-being

Sub-Topic	Plan Reference	Feedback
Overview		Explicitly connect the benefits of walkable communities to Community Well-being as well as Placemaking, accessible affordable housing etc. Also: incorporate the concept of healthy communities in overview text. And how exactly is the concept of family changing?
		Add a definition for "happiness index" to glossary.
		Messaging to address the need to balance social issues with community well-being.
		On page 104: last sentence,...."Issues safety and security,..... Editing is required here. Either place a comma after the word "issues", or insert "of".
		The statistic of 1,500 people is mentioned here as well, please see note above. Perhaps a statement such as "We cannot have community well-being unless people are housed properly."
		Social objectives should emphasize that land use objectives are not the only objectives in this OCP
Social Equity	15.3	Replace the sub-policies under 15.3 with ones that stand alone for senior government, businesses, etc.
	15.3.3	Tie to CED in Economy
Physical Accessibility	15.4	Accessibility and language to address the operational side of keeping pathways clear for all-weather access.
	15.4	Mobility challenges for paths and greenways to consider people with sight impairments.
	15.5	Strongly encourage a minimum standard of accessibility in all entryways and shared space for all new multi-unit development, including electronic door openers that allow elevator access to all building levels, including parkades.
	15.5	Incorporate the needs of people in wheelchairs in parking management.
	15.5	I do hope people with limited mobility using motor scooters would be able to use these greenways
		as a wheelchair user I need assurances my needs are taken into account
Multigenerational Neighbourhoods	15.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General comment: There is only outdoor stuff to do in Victoria. Need more to do year-round. For ages 0-10, there are lots of private sector businesses to entertain kids. • Children's Museum would be a benefit for locals and tourists. • Need more family restaurants. • Events • New library downtown • Disincentives to bus travel with children: grumpy drivers, lack of space on busses for strollers, fussy children on busses (and passenger/driver unhappiness), rude drivers • Open plazas where families and generations mix, "like Europe"
	15.6 – 15.11	with the current mandate of the vancouver island health authority - to assist seniors to live safely and independently in their own homes (neighbourhoods) for as long as possible it would seem to me that the city might want to start a dialogue with viha as to what they are planning to do with all the seniors 75+ who will need more care as they age. where will they move to ?
	15.6-15.11	I feel that Victoria is lacking activities for youth. When you go downtown the only place you can go to is billiards or

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		the movies if you are underage that is. I wish there were more venues where underage people and go. So many talented artists come to Victoria but they play at clubs because most of the money is in the alcohol. For a perfect downtown I believe there should be a rec center made for teens and young adults which could host parties and shows. This would bring more youth together and give them a place that is safe to go to on the weekends.
	15.6 -15.11	The participants discussed how the emerging villages such as Fernwood, Cook and Quadra provided safe and fun spaces where youth found financially accessible to participate in activities.
	15.6 -15.11	The importance of having family friendly developments should be emphasized. This concept is more than just housing for families but more an access to community functions for families. Condominium developments should include affordable housing for families.
	15.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern that old houses be retrofitted to meet modern medical/nursing facilities. Purpose built health facilities may be better than retrofitting old buildings.
	15.8	Should we be clearer about re-use or re-purposing [schools] with relative priority?
	15.8 – 15.9	<p>Signs posted on the fence around South Park (in James Bay, bounded by Michigan, Douglas and Toronto Streets) indicate that the site is School Board property. It is one thing for the City to share South Park with the school across the street, but inadvisable to ignore the fact that it is a public park first and foremost; school usage is secondary</p> <p>Suggestion: " South Park" name signs should be posted at every entrance and both parties (school and city representatives) must sign legal documentation setting out any limitations for school use, e.g. specific times of day available to the school, necessary procedures for making any and all changes, identify whether temporary or permanent, and used for what purposes.</p>
	15.8 and 15.9	<p>Keeping existing schools and maintaining the population to achieve that goal; would a change in population result in a change in school use?;</p> <p>First priority is to keep children in schools and if this is not possible, looking at alternate purposes for these facilities.</p>
	15.8 and 15.9	Clarify use of schools for hubs vs preserving kids for schools.
	15.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need jobs here to keep families here Victoria needs to entice families to come
	15.10	Want guidelines for daycare/eldercare to recognize effects of parking/ hours of operation. Concern that businesses fit into residential neighbourhoods
	15.10	typo in 15.10, extra space after "preschool".
	15.14	Seniors centre: need access to new buildings, drop-in activities for all (not just members). Co-location with other facilities
	broad comments	Interest in a principle that supports senior and children-friendly facilities of all kinds.
Community Development	15.12	Partnerships with other agencies and clarity of language regarding funding.
	15.12.1	{...} While cultural hubs and supporting cultural arts create opportunities to celebrate Canadian identity and multiculturalism, it does not provide true support for creating sustainable economic development and support for inclusive communities. The group noted that although access to services and facilities for all is an important priority, Victoria's deeper issues surrounding housing, food security, homelessness, mental health and lack of economic opportunity is most visibly linked to marginalized populations.

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	15.12.2	Create a longer list or do not include
	15.12.2	End sentence at “for all”; remove “including people...”
	15.12.3	Not only local level – regional level too.
		Has there been any support for Victoria as a Global Learning City? The creation of a Learning Precinct? New library?
Public Engagement	15.15	The City’s new Engagement Policy is comprehensive and offers several opportunities for community voice. However, many of the communication tools seek instant or tweeter level responses which may not reflect considered or knowledgeable opinion.
	15.15	Replace “Public” with “Civic” in title of sub-topic. 15.15.1 and 15.15.4 are equivalent. Add policy as 15.16 to explore or consider best practices with respect to open government (including data sharing).
	15.15	Wow, I agree with all of section 15...but in my experience since the community planning department was created in Victoria several years ago, I don’t see that these principles were followed. No calls, e-mails or invites...no communications or questions asking how I would like participate. As an original participant in LUCC, later CALUC, as a volunteer on the Visioning Committee for the Fairfield Community Association’s Planning and Zoning Committee, as a volunteer on the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan and as a weekly volunteer removing invasive species from BHP and part of NEVPAN, as a neighbourhood representative who participated in the Community Circle for the draft OCP...I do not feel the city sought my participation. Perhaps you could redefine section 15 to fix the situation for the new OCP.
	15.15	Public engagement. The current public engagement strategy tends to allow 5-8 people to have too much influence on what will happen in a neighbourhood. Is that addressed in the OCP? [...]Chapter 19 looks at local area planning and provides more details how they will figure out operational parameters.
	15.15	obviously.
		Make information available on the city website re: parks maintenance, traffic, general workings of city so that people can find out about projects in their neighbourhood
		Provide simple mechanisms for citizens to provide ideas and input to the city on ongoing basis
		Victoria as a learning City.
		Feedback/cooperation needed between city and citizen initiatives. - Maybe community newsletters or prior notification about street closures etc.
		We want to know what’s planned for our streets and surrounding areas; need iterative project engagement and regular updates
	Perhaps generalize and include as a policy on lifelong learning?	
Personal and Public Safety	15.16- 15.19	The most common trend was how the downtown core was seen as not only inaccessible to youth, but considered unsafe. An overwhelming amount of the ‘stop’ stickers were placed in the downtown area, especially where people without homes are most visible.
	15.16- 15.19	The more developed ‘mall culture’ also interested some of the youth and they discussed Mayfair and Hillside Malls as safer spaces for youth. However, when digger deeper into why the youth felt safer in malls, it is clear that it less

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		to do with the mall itself. Issues around safety stemming from addictions and lack of affordable housing downtown concerns their parents and guardians as well as discourages youth from enjoying downtown.
	15.16-15.19	omg Obviously.
	15.16- 15.19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The city should also keep homeless away from public school grounds and not open homeless shelters or needle exchanges near schools (Ex: St. Andrews and Pandora Needle Exchange.) Each municipality needs to get their own police so they can respond to calls without driving across Victoria.
	15.16-15.19	We need reform here: increased police accountability and oversight; respect for citizens; zero tolerance of police violence.
	15.16	Remove “surrounding” before “neighbourhoods”.
	15.16	Balance of social services facilities and dealing issues outside building. Don’t have one without the other commitment.
	15.19	Having safe injection sites is important key to helping those with addiction
	15.19	Need full support for addictions services – if you have only a needle exchange with no safe injection site, you create problems in the area.
	15.19	We would also like to give feedback on the language in the plan (in 3 places) that community well-being includes an approach to addictions that “balances public order and public health”[...]“Problematic substance use is a broader term and can be used to discuss needing to address the impacts of substance use on our community.”
	15.19	The phrase “seek to address addictions while balancing public order and public health” is particularly troubling, as it insinuates that the two are on opposite ends of the spectrum, which they are not – they go hand in hand. Public order is not discussed with regards to any other service in this document why here? Recommended change: “Address problematic substance use in a coordinated way that addresses individual health and public health by supporting...”
	15.19	Secondly, the notion of “balancing” public order and public health suggests that the two are in opposition to each other, which is not the case[...] In the traditional 4 pillar approach[...] [t]he “pillar” metaphor indicates that each pillar works with the others to uphold the “roof” of community health and wellbeing, not that they are working against each other, as insinuated in “balancing” language above. We strongly recommend that the language in the OCP reflect the fact that public health and public order go hand-in-hand.
	15.19.3	Replace the wording “people who are addicted” with “people who have addictions”.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety downtown is a concern. Outings with kids are not pleasant due to panhandling. Busstops are sites for open dealing, yet all buses transfer through downtown. Downtown not safe and feel very uncomfortable at night for kids- street drugs Street people are huge problem in almost all areas: Pandora, Johnson, Chinatown More safe streets to meander Taking bus to citycore with children is very difficult to navigate
		Many families don’t come downtown at all. Too unsafe feeling. Parking is challenging. Transit is difficult. Not enough attractions for kids.

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	15.20	who is doing the encouraging again? who is doing the promoting and increasing?
Sustainability Education	15.20	City, s a goal/objective needs to clean up what it can and create infrastructure/standards for residents to have healthy lifestyles. It is not up to city to spend taxpayer monies to educate them. these are make work projects that we cannot afford.
	15.20.1	Identify programs that exist now – not just “promote”.
	15.20.3	Where is the food system reference in the Food Systems chapter
General - Other		What about spirituality?
		The Leadership Committee of PLAY Victoria (www.playvictoria.org) has reviewed the draft official community plan and the related sections to children and families (housing, parks and recreation, community well being and transportation) and are incredibly pleased with the city’s efforts in responding to our initial feedback. We believe this plan represents a city who is making a conscious effort to meet the needs of young children and families in Victoria. We are pleased to read about the City’s goals for multi-generational neighbourhoods; a more active role for the Victoria School District through community use of schools; thoughtful green spaces and parks; and, recognition and goals to support quality child care. We believe you have captured our ideas, concerns and interests – well done!
		Pets – fact of community/ support for human interaction.
		[...] A further benefit related to amateur, and to some degree professional, sports is the encouragement of health and fitness of the general population which contributes to both social and economic (productivity) well being.
		Section 15 – Page 107 – No “Measuring Progress” performance indicators. I highly recommend “Measuring Progress” performance indicators be included in each section.
		This is a strong section which the committee supports. We question the assumptions made about the future demographic profile, and suggest that incentives be created to encourage all ages to live/work in Victoria. It is also important to strengthen directions related to physical accessibility, multigenerational neighbourhoods and social equity.
		Would like to see integrated health centres with an array of health professionals; would make better use of public facilities (to complement existing hospitals); would be good to redesign old buildings for multi-use and 24 hour service
		Right to access to drinking water in the public realm.
		As an aging person, I would like to see more public toilets in Vic West along West Songhees Walkway
		More free parking and bathrooms
		Need more bathrooms on waterfront
		Burnside Gorge supports the objectives and the inclusion of Community Well-being as criteria for a comprehensive OCP. Social equity and distribution of services, physical accessibility, improved multigenerational capacity, community development, public engagement, safety and sustainability are all critical to Burnside Gorge realising it potential as a neighbourhood. We will rely on these objectives and ideals as we advocate to ensure Burnside Gorge grows as a neighbourhood and does not get usurped by corridor plans or compartmentalization of its various land uses.

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		Need an immigration strategy to attract and support the needs of families (Canadian and international): housing, employment, education, early childhood care, development and activities. Immigrant families are most concerned about the children's development.