

September 2020 Update



In Your Neighbourhood

Swimming Platform

At their September 17 meeting, Council adopted a motion to write Transport Canada supporting the ongoing use of the swimming platform installed in front of Banfield Park this summer. The sponsors of the wharf are offering it as a donation to the City. Council's endorsement was subject to any unknown impacts the wharf may be having to ecological values and other uses of the Gorge at this location. Public health issues with swimming in the Gorge were discussed and considered to be part of broader discussion for a later time. The discussion can be reviewed at approximately 3:36 of their meeting.

Harbour Road Bike Path

The latest extension of the City's bike path network is now open. The section provides a separated bike lane from the Johnson Street Bridge to the Galloping Goose trail.

Childcare Action Plan

On Thursday October 1, Council will receive a staff report regarding steps to improve the state of childcare in Victoria in the areas of process, policy, partnerships, advocacy, and

Accessibility Framework

Council endorsed the Accessibility Framework in August. This staff report for Thursday October 4 responds to further direction from Council related to the establishment of an interim advisory committee, revised policy, adjustments to the short term action plan, status of seven priority issues raised by the Accessibility Working Group, and a proposed future approach for development of decision making tools for Council.

education and training. The full report from the Working Group was prepared for this presentation.

Business in Public Space

Last spring, Council approved a plan to make public spaces available in order to help them meet COVID 19 risk management requirements. The program has been very popular and beneficial in meeting its objectives. On September 17, Council resolved to "...endorse in principal the extension of the Open Air Recovery – Support for Restaurants and Cafes in Public Spaces expanded and expedited patio initiative pending receipt of a report from City Staff detailing feedback from businesses and residents." At approximately the same time, the province approved continuation of a complementary program allowing for the extension of liquor licensed seating into patio areas.

Direction for Strategic Plan Grants

At their October 1 meeting, Council will receive a staff report providing changes to the program requested by Council, and a request provide direction for a focus for the 2021 Strategic Plan grants that will help inform applications for funding.

> CITY OF VICTORIA | Victoria West Neighbourhood Councillor: Jeremy Loveday jloveday@victoria.ca Neighbourhood Staff Contact: Michael Hill mhill@victoria.ca







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Vic West



By-election

Council has endorsed the tentative scheduling of a by-election on December 12, 2020. This October 1, <u>staff</u> report requests Council endorsement of electoral officers, approval to request a by-election from the province and allocation of \$350,000 in funding.

Get Growing, Victoria

At their October 1 meeting, Councillors Loveday and Isitt will be introducing <u>recommendations</u> to continue with the Get Growing Victoria program, which was initiated in response to COVID 19. Specifically, to:

- Endorse in principle the continuation of Get Growing, Victoria as an annual program
- Direct staff to report back on the results of the 2020 Get Growing, Victoria program and on the implications of continuing the program annually in 2021 and future years
- Invite input from the Urban Food Table and other stakeholders on the continuation of Get Growing, Victoria.

City Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets on October <u>1</u>, 8, 15 and 22 at 9:00am. Council meets on October 8 and 22 beginning at 6:30pm. There is also an additional <u>Council meeting</u> immediately following the October 1 COTW meeting. You can also watch the meetings live through a link on the agendas.

If you have comments that you would like to express regarding any of the upcoming agenda items, contact your Mayor and Council.

