

Preet Chaggar

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 10:41 AM
To: Council
Subject: (External Email) May 12 meeting 2025 3. ADOPTION OF STRATEGIES INTO THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN Notice of Motion from Councillor Chambers from the Council meeting of March 24, 2025. That Council formally adopt the Urban Forest and Biodiversity Conserva...
Attachments: CCA Letter to Council May 12 2025.pdf

This email sent from outside the District of Saanich. Use caution if message is unexpected or sender is not known to you.

Dear Mayor and Council:

Please see the attached letter.

Sincerely,

Camosun Community Association



www.CamosunCommunityAssociation.com

May 12, 2025

Dear Mayor and Council,

The Camosun Community Association would like to express our collective support of a motion brought forward by Councillor Chambers at the March 24th Council meeting: “That Council formally adopt the Urban Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Strategies into the Official Community Plan (OCP) at an upcoming meeting in the near term”.

Presently, Natural Environment Policies in the Official Community Plan reflect the developmental stages of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (BCS) and Urban Forest Strategy (UFS). Both strategies have now been completed and include goals, and strategies that are highly relevant to update in the OCP.

We would advocate that the completed status of the BCS and UFS requires explicit acknowledgement in the OCP.

Sincerely,

Lisa Timmons
President
Camosun Community Association

Preet Chaggar

From: Pat Walker <p[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 10:48 AM
To: Council
Subject: (External Email) Official Community Plan

This email sent from outside the District of Saanich. Use caution if message is unexpected or sender is not known to you.

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing today to support the motion to adopt the Urban Forest and Biodiversity Conservation strategic plans into the Official community Plan.

I was surprised to learn that these strategic plans were not already part of the OCP ! After all the time, money and effort invested into developing these plans it seems somewhat ridiculous not to include them in our OCP!

If we are serious about making changes to our urban forest, about preserving biodiversity in the face of development, these plans are integral to the OCP.

Thank you for your time.

Pat Walker

[REDACTED] Quesnton Street
Saanich

ADOPTION OF STRATEGIES INTO THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN

Notice of Motion from Councillor Chambers from the Council meeting of March 24, 2025.

That Council formally adopt the Urban Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Strategies into the Official Community Plan upcoming meeting in the near term.

Preet Chaggar

From: Jenus Friesen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 9:36 AM
To: Nathalie Chambers; Mayor Dean Murdock; Mena Westhaver; Zac De Vries; Councillor Judy Brownoff; Susan Brice; Karen Harper; Teale Phelps Bondaroff; Colin Plant
Subject: (External Email) Respectfully Steward and Protect the World We Live In

This email sent from outside the District of Saanich. Use caution if message is unexpected or sender is not known to you.

Dear Saanich Council Members,

As humans, we have a responsibility to protect and respectfully steward the world we live in.

I urge you to adopt the Urban Forest and Biodiversity Strategy into the Official Community Plan.

The forced housing targets have created devastating effects on our biodiversity and urban forests. Speculative development interests have not solved housing problems, but have certainly created infrastructure problems. Density has been prioritized over the environment.

We need to consider ALL living creatures in our community, including trees, plants, birds, wildlife and water. This is their home, too, and we all live interconnectedly in our beautiful community web of life.

Thoughtful protection of building envelopes can mitigate the flattening and replacement of our forest habitats. Notice how the protections in Broadmead have allowed humans to live in harmony with the natural environment.

The impact of losing trees and parcels of land will be very significant to the future of the health of Saanich. The OCP needs to protect all living things within this natural area - these things cannot speak for themselves.

Let's be sustainable stewards. Let's plan a future together in harmony with the downy woodpeckers, raccoons, Garry oaks and Douglas firs, micro organisms, plants, insects, mosses, ducks, deer and songbirds. We all live here together and these things are worth protecting.

(Don't forget Joni's famous words,
" ... **Don't it always seem to go**
That you don't know what you've got 'til it's gone
They paved paradise, put up a parking lot.
(Ooh, bop-bop-bop-bop, ooh, bop-bop-bop-bop)

Sincerely,
Jenus Friesen
Gordon Head, Saanich
[REDACTED]

Preet Chaggar

From: Liane Gustafson [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 8:46 AM
To: Council
Subject: (External Email) For tonight's council meeting May 12

This email sent from outside the District of Saanich. Use caution if message is unexpected or sender is not known to you.

May 12, 2025

To Mayor and Council

Tonight the Urban Forest and Biodiversity Strategies is on the table and I strongly urge you to vote to include this into Saanich's Official Community Plan. We very much need this to be included into our vision for Saanich and to guide development.

I have been a lifelong resident of Saanich, growing up in Lakehill to Blenkinsop Valley area, and in my 66 years have seen a lot of change (Public Works yard was a frog swamp at one time). We are losing so much of what made Saanich so special, natural outdoor space and residences co-existing together.

In the years I was on the Durrell Creek Watershed Plan committee and the Rural Saanich LAP committee, a couple of the many concerns was stormwater management and impervious surfaces. That now seems to have gone to the wayside with a build to the max mindset driven by developers and those in public office.

Do we even know what we have for trees in Saanich? The mature and smaller immature trees, the understory vegetation? How it interconnects with the needs of various species? Along with the needs of our own mental health and physical wellbeing?

Please adopt Councillor Chambers motion to include the vital Urban Forest and Biodiversity Strategies into our OCP.

Liane Gustafson

[REDACTED] Courtland Avenue

Saanich

Preet Chaggar

From: Peg Labiuk [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 8:34 AM
To: Council
Subject: (External Email) Quadra McKenzie Plan, AAP

This email sent from outside the District of Saanich. Use caution if message is unexpected or sender is not known to you.

Dear Mayor Murdock and Council,

I am a Saanich resident who greatly enjoys walking in the Christmas Hill and Swan Lake area. That residents so loved it and helped protect it like the Rogers Family, should be honoured. Please back off from developers pressure and protect the ecosystem, revise the plan.

I am also not in favour of using AAP to decide funding for the Operations Centre. Please engage the public and listen, as you were voted in to do.

Sincerely,

Peg Labiuk
Albion Road, Saanich

Preet Chaggar

From: Sheila Lukasiewich [REDACTED] >
Sent: Sunday, May 11, 2025 6:03 PM
To: Council
Subject: (External Email) Council Meeting May 12 - Urban Forest and Biodiversity Plan

This email sent from outside the District of Saanich. Use caution if message is unexpected or sender is not known to you.

To: Mayor and Saanich Council Members

We are writing in support of the public adoption of the Urban Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Strategies into the Official Community Plan.

It is critically important that as Saanich adopts a new Official Community Plan that we also include the Urban Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Strategies plan.

Much talk and work has been done on this over the past decade and this is a crucial step for the mayor and council to commit themselves to the environment and well-being of the citizens of Saanich.

I think we all agree that Saanich is unique and a great place to live and it is important that as development of our community continues to evolve that we must consider and include our environment.

Our physical environment is critical for filtering of carbon emissions and ground water, noise mitigation, air quality, shade and heat production, the physical and mental well-being of residents and all of the species that call Saanich home.

It is time for the Mayor and Council to commit to following through on the many years of promises and make some long-term commitments to the residents of Saanich..

Sincerely,

Sheila Lukasiewich and Troy Nixdorf
[REDACTED] Derby Road

Preet Chaggar

From: Ryan Senechal [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, May 10, 2025 10:02 PM
To: Council; Nathalie Chambers; Zac De Vries; dean.murdock@saanich.ca; Susan Brice; Councillor Judy Brownoff; Karen Harper; Teale Phelps Bondaroff; Colin Plant; Mena Westhaver
Subject: (External Email) OCP: Biodiversity and Urban Forest Policies
Attachments: GOMPS_Saanich_OCP_May_10_2025.pdf

This email sent from outside the District of Saanich. Use caution if message is unexpected or sender is not known to you.

Good evening Mayor and Council,
Please find our letter of support attached to this email.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ryan

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Ryan Senechal MUFL
Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society - President
ISA Certified Arborist
ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified
BC Wildlife & Danger Tree Assessor
[REDACTED]





**GARRY OAK MEADOW
PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

May 10, 2025

Dear Mayor and Council,

The Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society would like to express our collective support of a motion brought forward by Councillor Chambers at the March 24th Council meeting: “That Council formally adopt the Urban Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Strategies into the Official Community Plan (OCP) at an upcoming meeting in the near term”. We believe this motion will have important implications for residents of Saanich, particularly for vulnerable people that have an increased risk of injury and death resulting from high heat events in highly built-up areas underserved by canopy cover.

Presently, Natural Environment Policies in the Official Community Plan reflect the developmental stages of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (BCS) and Urban Forest Strategy (UFS). Both strategies have now been completed and include goals, and strategies that are highly relevant to update in the OCP. We believe the completed status of the BCS and UFS requires explicit acknowledgement in the OCP.

Incorporating UFS canopy goals for Future Land Use Designations in an updated OCP would demonstrate greater commitment to OCP 6.22 “working towards the 3:30:300 principle” in development decisions. We propose an OCP Policy adoption of Table 4 “Target Canopy Cover 2064” (Figure 1), which includes actionable and achievable canopy cover by Land Use Designation.

Table 4. Land uses and target canopy cover

Land Use	Land Area (ha)	Canopy Cover (2019)	Projected (2064) Canopy Cover without UFS	Target Canopy Cover (2064)
Industrial Lands	177	31%	31%	31% ↔
Institutional	687	47%	47%	47% ↔
Knowledge Centre	158	30%	30%	30% ↔
Neighbourhood	2,983	31%	26%	35% ↑
Neighbourhood Hub	16	28%	24%	30% ↑
Park	1,468	70%	70%	72% ↑
Primary Growth Area	934	24%	13%	20% ↓
Rural Areas	4,225	46%	46%	46% ↔
Rural Village	18	48%	48%	48% ↔

Figure 1 - UFS 2024 Table 4 - Land uses and target canopy cover

We would like to see similar clarity that is provided in OCP Part 8 (Housing) reflected in OCP Natural Environment Policies: presently there are no specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound Policies in Biodiversity and Urban Forest parts of the OCP. The present language adopted in OCP 6.2.2 “working towards the 3:30:300 principle” could be improved by adding time-bound specificity referencing the UFS 2064 canopy goals. How the UFS is implemented in Primary Growth Areas can produce a status-quo canopy cover scenario falling 17% short of the 3:30:300 principle or a more favourable 10% less of the recommended 30% canopy by 2064. This difference will matter to vulnerable populations in Saanich who are most at risk in future heat dome events. The OCP should make abundantly clear which scenario is preferred to guide development in a manner so that 2064 canopy cover goals will be realized.

Sincerely,
Ryan Senechal
President, Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society

Preet Chaggar

From: Leigh Urquhart [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, May 10, 2025 1:06 PM
To: Council
Subject: (External Email) May 12 meeting- Motion for Urban Forest, Biodiversity strategies

This email sent from outside the District of Saanich. Use caution if message is unexpected or sender is not known to you.

Hello Mayor and council,

I fully endorse Councillor Chamber's motion - Urban Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Strategies into the Official Community Plan because it aligns with the community's interests in protecting green space in Saanich for the betterment of all citizens.

Best regards.

Leigh Urquhart

[REDACTED] Queenston St.

Preet Chaggar

From: Kathryn Bridge [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 9, 2025 8:11 PM
To: Mayor Dean Murdock; Zac De Vries; Teale Phelps Bondaroff; Karen Harper; Mena Westhaver; Susan Brice; Councillor Judy Brownoff; Colin Plant; Nathalie Chambers
Subject: (External Email) Notice of Motion from Councillor Chambers

This email sent from outside the District of Saanich. Use caution if message is unexpected or sender is not known to you.

Dear Mayor and Council,

I totally support:
Notice of Motion from Councillor Chambers that Council formally adopt the Urban Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Strategies into the Official Community Plan at an upcoming meeting in the near term.

Kathryn Bridge
[REDACTED] Rogers Ridge

