

A Sustainable Development Strategy for the District of Sooke



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Mark Holland

HB LANARC

Today's Agenda

- Process Overview
- Objectives for Today
- Your Contributions
- Draft Sustainable Development Strategy
- Detailed Discussions



Strategic Planning Process



We are here

Workshop Objectives

- To show you:
 - What we learned from the last workshop & how we used your ideas
- To discuss the Draft Strategy:
 - To refine and ground-truth policy directions
 - To prioritize actions
 - To flesh out important implementation tools



What did we hear from you?

A shared vision that includes:

- ✓ Beautiful downtown
- ✓ Maintenance of existing character
- ✓ Live, work, and play opportunities
- ✓ Walkable community
- ✓ Face-to-face encounters
- ✓ Less driving
- ✓ Enhanced transit
- ✓ Pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure
- ✓ Prosperous local economy
- ✓ Housing and recreation for youth
- ✓ Affordable housing



What did we hear from you?

A shared vision that includes:

- ✓ Healthy lifestyles
- ✓ Sense of community
- ✓ Inclusive community dialogue
- ✓ Community facilities
- ✓ Healthy green spaces
- ✓ Local food system
- ✓ Strong agricultural roots
- ✓ Green buildings
- ✓ Renewable energy and resources
- ✓ Partnerships with other governments



Draft Strategy

- Builds on this shared vision
- Identifies global and local contextual issues
- Utilizes the “eight pillars” of sustainable development
- Offers eight core strategies



Eight strategies for a sustainable Sooke

1. Create neighbourhood centres and a downtown waterfront that are compact and complete
2. Develop a transportation system that provides viable options for non-automobile transportation and transit use
3. Support low-impact, energy efficient, healthy buildings in which to live, work and play
4. Celebrate cultural and ecological assets through managing open spaces and the public realm



Eight strategies for a sustainable Sooke

5. Develop low-impact, efficient infrastructure
6. Foster a healthy, resilient and supportive community
7. Promote jobs and businesses that contribute to a locally-oriented green economy
8. Promote a healthy, sustainable, local food system



Policy directions for each strategy include:

- Actions
- Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects
- Implementation Tools



Create neighbourhood centres and a downtown waterfront that is compact and complete

- **Action:** Ensure a vibrant, fine-grained mix of uses
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Strongly support small-scale, pedestrian-oriented commercial uses
 - Retrofit existing single-use areas by integrating a mix of uses
 - Focus growth toward the water – a unique local asset



Create neighbourhood centres and a downtown waterfront that is compact and complete

- **Action:** Target densities in strategic locations while maintaining character and encouraging beautification
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Establish higher-densities (e.g. at least 12 homes/ acre) in the downtown & other centres
 - Require infill development and housing diversity, including:
 - Secondary suites
 - Coach housing
 - Flex housing



Create neighbourhood centres and a downtown waterfront that is compact and complete

- **Action:** Contribute to an attractive public realm that encourages social interaction
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Create a public gathering place such as a plaza
 - Beautify public places, especially in the new downtown and around neighbourhood centres.Examples include:
 - Public art
 - Urban agriculture
 - Street trees and furniture
 - Design guidelines



Create neighbourhood centres and a downtown waterfront that is compact and complete

- Implementation Tools:
 - OCP
 - Zoning Bylaw
 - Downtown Plan
 - Development Permit Guidelines
 - Developer Amenity Contributions
 - Incentives
 - District Initiatives
 - Others?

Develop a transportation system that provides viable opportunities for non-automobile and transit use

- **Action:** Encourage people to enjoy Sooke on foot, bicycle and transit
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Develop parking caps
 - Create transit-friendly densities (e.g. 12 homes/acre)
 - Implement pedestrian-friendly design guidelines
 - Offer opportunities to work from home



Develop a transportation system that provides viable opportunities for non-automobile and transit use

- **Action:** Change local roadway standards and procedures to promote non-motorized modes of transportation
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Calm traffic and beautify Highway #14
 - Ensure streets are shared
 - Ensure streets are safe for active users (pedestrians, cyclists, etc.)



Develop a transportation system that provides viable opportunities for non-automobile and transit use

- **Action:** Develop low-impact streets and driving options
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Launch a community car-pool
 - Ensure new streets and parking areas are green, including:
 - Permeable, non-toxic materials
 - Natural stormwater features



Develop a transportation system that provides viable opportunities for non-automobile and transit use

- **Action:** Direct investment to enhancing pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Extend the Galloping Goose through Sooke
 - Connect important places (e.g. downtown, natural areas, SEAPARC)
 - Provide cyclist facilities such as secure storage and showers
 - Implement a traffic-calming program
 - Establish an inter-community bus service with other municipalities



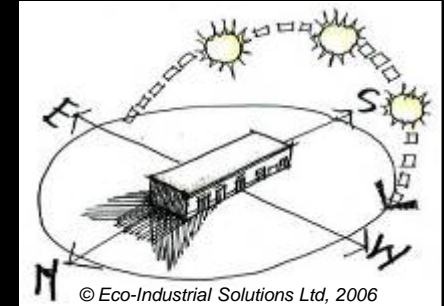
Develop a transportation system that provides viable opportunities for non-automobile and transit use

- **Implementation Tools:**

- OCP
- Zoning Bylaw
- Incentives
- Transportation Master Plan
- Parks and Trails Plan (new)
- Development Permit Guidelines
- Developer Amenity Contribution
- District Initiative
- Regional and/or Inter-Governmental Agreements and Partnerships
- Others?

Support low-impact, energy efficient, healthy buildings in which to live, work and play

- **Action:** Ensure policies strongly encourage green buildings.
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Develop a green building checklist
 - Require home orientation for passive solar access
 - Encourage building adaptability for future installation of renewable technologies



Support low-impact, energy efficient, healthy buildings in which to live, work and play

- **Action:** Make green building practices more viable and attractive to developers
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Provide incentives, including:
 - partial or full tax exemptions
 - density bonusing
 - restructured development costs charges
 - Pair District-offered incentives with those provided by other governments/programs
 - Streamline green applications



Support low-impact, energy efficient, healthy buildings in which to live, work and play

- **Action:** Educate for positive behavioral change
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Utilize water and energy-metering
 - Develop a program to educate staff and develop green building champions



Support low-impact, energy efficient, healthy buildings in which to live, work and play

- **Implementation Tools:**

- Sustainability / Green Building Checklist
- Incentives
- Statutory Building Schemes
- Subdivision and Development Standards Bylaw
- District Initiatives
- OCP and Zoning Bylaw

Celebrate cultural and ecological assets through managing open spaces and the public realm

- **Action:** Build on Sooke's sense of place
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Protect and restore heritage sites
 - Ensure new development compliments existing heritage and character
 - Permit and encourage arts, culture and entertainment uses in the downtown
 - Continue support of Sooke's well-loved community festivals and events



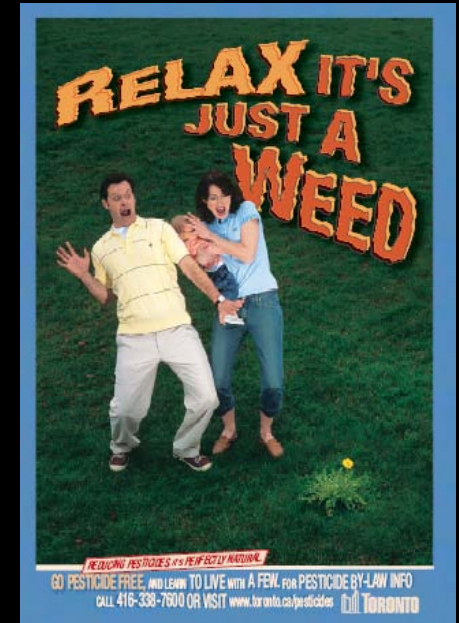
Celebrate cultural and ecological assets through managing open spaces and the public realm

- **Action:** Develop recreational opportunities to take advantage of Sooke's natural character
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Preserve local agricultural and ecological assets while maximizing access for pedestrians and cyclists
 - Link open spaces with green ways



Celebrate cultural and ecological assets through managing open spaces and the public realm

- **Action:** Protect ecosystem and community health
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Restrict or impose a full-ban on cosmetic pesticide use in the District
 - Ensure new developments minimize impact on terrestrial and aquatic habitats (i.e. build on existing OCP policies)



Celebrate cultural and ecological assets through managing open spaces and the public realm

- **Implementation Tools:**

- Heritage Revitalization Bylaw
- Trails and Parks Plan (new)
- Development Permit Guidelines
- Development Approval Information Areas
- Tree Protection Bylaw
- Incentives
- OCP
- Zoning Bylaw
- District Inventory & Mapping Initiative / Partnership
- District Initiatives
- Others?

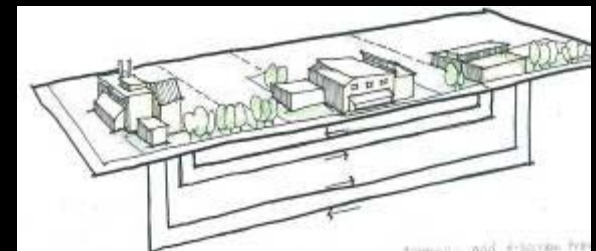
Develop low-impact, efficient, green infrastructure

- **Action:** Ensure policies and procedures support the development of green infrastructure
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Ensure Zoning & Subdivision Bylaws do not prohibit green innovation
 - Develop incentives, and begin where there is expressed interest in the community
 - e.g. water conservation
 - Streamline green applications



Develop low-impact, efficient, green infrastructure

- **Action:** Develop a community energy strategy
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Undertake a baseline assessment
 - Provide an OCP mandate to take action on energy
 - Make explicit policy links between energy and land use in the OCP:
 - Demand – neighbourhood & site design
 - Supply – district heating systems
 - Establish or promote the development of neighbourhood energy utilities
 - Develop a green infrastructure checklist



Develop low-impact, efficient, green infrastructure

- **Action:** Create champions and beacon projects
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Host workshops and develop information packages for developers
 - Create a Green Advisory Committee or green business leadership group
 - Incorporate best practices into public property and services. Examples include:
 - water-wise landscaping into civic parks
 - permeable paving into public parking areas
 - public composting programs



Develop low-impact, efficient, green infrastructure

- **Implementation Tools:**

- OCP
- Zoning Bylaw
- Subdivision and Development Standards Bylaw
- Water Conservation Bylaw
- Sustainability / Green Infrastructure Checklist
- Incentives
- District Initiatives
- Others?

Foster an healthy, resilient, and supportive community

- **Action:** Support affordable and accessible housing
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Build on the existing “Measuring Up” process and adopt accessibility guidelines
 - Discuss with developers how to make existing affordability policies more effective
 - Provide incentives for accessible and affordable housing



Foster an healthy, resilient, and supportive community

- **Action:** Create opportunities to celebrate diversity in the public realm
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Partner with the First Nations community on projects and events such as Salmon Days
 - Invest in youth facilities
 - Support community events, such as the former "Salmon Days"



Foster an healthy, resilient, and supportive community

- **Action:** Support the establishment of new community centres
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Determine the feasibility of developing a multi-use community centre
 - Determine the feasibility of developing an integrated health centre



Foster an healthy, resilient, and supportive community

- Implementation Tools:
 - District Initiatives
 - Developer Amenity Contribution
 - Incentives
 - OCP
 - Zoning Bylaw
 - Others?

Promote jobs and businesses that contribute to a locally-oriented, green economy

- **Action:** Create an attractive business presence
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Use land use regulations to focus commercial activity in the new downtown and around the harbour
 - Use policies and land use regulations to focus commercial activity in small-scale, pedestrian-oriented neighbourhood nodes



Promote jobs and businesses that contribute to a locally-oriented, green economy

- **Action:** Support green businesses that meet triple-bottom line objectives
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Look at designating an area for an eco-industrial development
 - Provide start-up aid and/or other incentives for businesses that meet criteria for:
 - scale
 - local-orientation
 - social and environmental responsibility



Image courtesy of Eco-Industrial Solutions



Promote jobs and businesses that contribute to a locally-oriented, green economy

- **Action:** Build on Sooke's existing natural and economic assets
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Establish a Green Business Council (or similar) that compliments the existing Chamber of Commerce
 - Focus on local natural assets, including:
 - agri-tourism
 - eco-tourism
 - Develop an arts, crafts and food identity for Sooke (i.e. make Sooke a destination)



Promote jobs and businesses that contribute to a locally-oriented, green economy

- **Action:** Develop strategies that localize the economy
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Develop a “buy local” campaign
 - Link trades education and local businesses through an apprenticeship program



Promote jobs and businesses that contribute to a locally-oriented, green economy

- Implementation Tools:
 - OCP
 - Zoning Bylaw
 - Development Permit Guidelines
 - Incentives
 - District Initiatives and Partnerships
 - Others?

Promote a healthy, sustainable, local food system

- **Action:** Develop a food system strategy
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Strengthen links between producers and consumers
 - Offer incentives for edible landscaping, extensive green roofs, and gardens
 - Provide spaces for local food processing
 - Restore, preserve and obtain access to wild food harvesting areas
 - Work with the ALC to ensure affordable access to farmers and visitors



Promote a healthy, sustainable, local food system

- **Action:** Develop a food identity
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Develop a “branding” campaign
 - corporate website
 - tourism information
 - visible landmarks (e.g. street signage)
 - public events and festivals
 - Ensure spaces are providing for food processing
 - Develop a food precinct
 - Develop and promote agri-tourism



Promote a healthy, sustainable, local food system

- **Action:** Educate the public about the importance of food self-reliance
- **Key Tasks & Catalyst Projects:**
 - Develop an educational campaign that builds awareness and creates demand
 - Develop public demonstration projects



Promote a healthy, sustainable, local food system

- Implementation Tools:

- OCP
- Zoning Bylaw
- Developer Amenity Contribution
- Sustainability Checklist
- Incentives
- District Initiatives / Partnership (e.g. with the ALC)
- Others?

For Discussion

- Provide feedback on the eight strategies
- Rank / Prioritize the actions and tasks/projects
- Refine and develop the list of implementation tools



Thank you!