

**Report to the Planning & Protective Services Committee
Meeting of Wednesday, January 25, 2006**

SUBJECT**Regional Context Statements for Colwood and View Royal****PURPOSE**

1. The City of Colwood has submitted bylaw No. 839 (A Bylaw to Amend Bylaw No. 373, Being the "Colwood Official Community Plan Bylaw, 1997"), for Board acceptance (Attachment A); and,
2. The Town of View Royal has submitted Bylaw No. 611 (A Bylaw to Amend the View Royal Official Community Plan with Respect to Inclusion of a Regional Context Statement) for Board acceptance (Attachment B).

BACKGROUND

To date, the Board has accepted Regional Context Statements (RCS) for Oak Bay, Central Saanich, Saanich, Victoria, Sidney and Langford. The deadline for submission was on August 13, 2005. RCSs have not yet been submitted by Esquimalt, North Saanich, Metchosin and Sooke. The District of Highlands RCS is considered in a separate staff report.

Local Government Act, section 866, requires each municipality, within two years of the date of adoption, to amend its official community plan (OCP) by including an RCS. The RCS must identify the relationship between the OCP and the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) and if applicable, specify how the OCP will be made consistent with the RGS over time. The context statement is prepared by the municipality as an amendment to the OCP. It is binding on the municipal council and therefore acts as a key implementation mechanism of the RGS. It should determine:

1. The extent to which the OCP is consistent with the RGS;
2. If it is not consistent, how the municipality intends to bring itself into consistency;
3. The elements of the RGS that *are not* applicable to the municipality;
4. The elements of the RGS that *should not* apply to the municipality; and,
5. The elements of the OCP subject to inter-municipal and regional review.

Under the Act, a municipality refers its RCS to the Board for review and acceptance. The board must respond by resolution within 120 days after receipt indicating whether or not it accepts the RCS and, if the board refuses to accept the RCS, indicating:

- a) Each provision to which it objects, and
- b) The reasons for its objection.

If the Board fails to act within the period for acceptance or refusal, the board is deemed by the Act to have accepted the RCS.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives are proposed for consideration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

GROWTH MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The proposed RCSs for the City of Colwood and the Town of View Royal fulfill the requirements of RGS implementation initiative I-4 (page 18 of the RGS bylaw).

SUMMARY/CONCLUSION

The context statements submitted for acceptance by Colwood and View Royal are well-prepared, thorough, and consistent with the RGS.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Planning & Protective Services Committee recommend to the Board that it:

- 1) Accept the Regional Context Statement for the City of Colwood, Bylaw No. 05-61, and notify Council to this effect; and,
- 2) Accept the Regional Context Statement for the Town of View Royal, Bylaw No. 8699, and notify Council to this effect.

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Report Writer

Kelly Daniels
Chief Administrative Officer
Concurrence

COMMENTS: