

**Staff Report to the Regional Planning Committee
Meeting of Wednesday, October 19, 2005**

SUBJECT:

Langford Regional Context Statement

PURPOSE/PROBLEM:

The City of Langford has submitted "Bylaw No. 971, Langford Official Community Plan Bylaw; Amendment Number 98 (Regional Context Statement), 2005" (Attachment A) for Board acceptance.

HISTORY/BACKGROUND:

- August 13/03: Regional Growth Strategy bylaw adopted.
October 27/04: Oak Bay regional context statement accepted by the Board.
August 13/05: Deadline for submission of regional context statements to the CRD for acceptance.
October 12/05: Region Context Statements for Central Saanich, Saanich, Victoria, and Sidney accepted by the Board.

Legislative requirements under *Local Government Act*, section 866, require 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 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 regional context statement fulfills RGS implementation initiative I-4 (page 18 of the RGS bylaw) for the City of Langford

SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS

The regional context statement proposed for acceptance is consistent with RGS.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Regional Planning Committee recommend to the Board that it accept the Regional Context Statement for the City of Langford, Bylaw No. 971, and notify Council to this effect.

Mark Hornell, MCIP
Director, Regional Planning Services
Report Writer

Kelly Daniels
Chief Administrative Officer
Concurrence

COMMENTS: