

## A G E N D A

### ADVISORY TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING October 21, 2020 at 2:00 pm Zoom Format

PRESENT: \_\_\_\_\_

A. **DELEGATIONS**

n/a

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B. **REVIEW PREVIOUS MINUTES**

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C. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. **Larry Ransom brought forward an email from Laurie Morphet at Alberni Elementary School on January 7, 2019 regarding traffic flow concerns at the school.** Larry or Mark Fryer, VP of Alberni Elementary, was requested to write letter to the City to request angle parking and 2 accessible parking spots with a letdown? Has this been received?
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2. **The Advisory Traffic Committee discussed revisiting road improvements at the lower Johnston corridor at Elizabeth Street.** Copy of Draft MOTI Highway 4 Port Alberni Corridor Study has been reviewed by Council, will forward final version to the ATC once received.
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D **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Email on January 23, 2020 from Alicia Ashley regarding safety concerns with neighbourhood children trying to get to school at E.J. Dunn. There are no crosswalks near the school on Argyle Street allowing children to get across from Argyle Way.**
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2. **Motion from City Council meeting held February 24, 2020 “THAT Council direct staff to forward comments/concerns regarding parking, parking congestion and traffic calming considerations to the Traffic Advisory for their review/input”. This was a request from Alf Thompson regarding concerns by Russell Place and Russell Street residents with parking, pedestrian safety, speeding and noise from commercial vehicles.**  

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3. **Email from Anita Jansen regarding traffic volume and noise on Gertrude Street at Lathom Road.**  

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4. **Email request from Pam. Vanderhoek to obtain a residential handicapped parking spot outside her home.**  

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5. **Email request from Alicia Puusepp, owner of Riverbend Store, to consider supporting the addition of a push-activated pedestrian crosswalk at Russell Street on River Road or in close proximity to the intersection.**  

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## **DISCUSSION**

### **PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING DATES:**

**January 20, 2021**

**April 21, 2021**

**July 21, 2021**

**October 20, 2021**

#### **DISTRIBUTION**

Councillor Ron Paulson

Tim Pley – CAO

Twyla Slonski – Director of Corporate Services

Ken Watson, Acting Director of Engineering and Public Works

Brian Mousley, Streets Superintendent

Katelyn McDougall, Manager of Planning

Gaylene Thorogood, Manager of Community Safety

Willa Thorpe, Director of Parks, Recreation and Heritage

Sgt. Peter Dionne – R.C.M.P., email agenda to [Peter.DIONNE@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:Peter.DIONNE@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)

Wes Patterson, Deputy Fire Chief - Fire Department

Larry Ransom, Trustee, SD 70, email agenda to [lransom@sd70b.c.ca](mailto:lransom@sd70b.c.ca)

Caroline Robinson, Road Safety Coordinator, ICBC, email agenda to [Caroline.Robinson@icbc.com](mailto:Caroline.Robinson@icbc.com)

Peggy Gibbs, ICBC, email agenda to [margaret.gibbs@icbc.com](mailto:margaret.gibbs@icbc.com)

David Wiwchar, The Peak, email agenda to [david.wiwchar@jpbq.ca](mailto:david.wiwchar@jpbq.ca)

Phil Atkinson, Diversified Transportation Ltd., email agenda to [phil@patransit.pwt.ca](mailto:phil@patransit.pwt.ca)

Laurie Payne, Diversified Transportation Ltd., email agenda to [lauriep@patransit.pwt.ca](mailto:lauriep@patransit.pwt.ca)

Vacant - Central Vanc. Island Traffic Services

Bill Brown – cyclist, email agenda to [billtbrown@shaw.ca](mailto:billtbrown@shaw.ca)

## Veronica Irg

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**From:** Alicia Ashley <alicia.ashley1@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 23, 2020 9:35 AM  
**To:** Veronica Irg  
**Subject:** Traffic committee request

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Traffic committee request

Hello, I'm contacting you today because of my great concerns for the safety of my daughter and the safety of the other children in the neighborhood, just trying to get to school. I live in a complex to the left of Argyle street, my daughters school, E.J.DUNN, is located on the right hand side of Argyle street. There are no crosswalks anywhere close to the school from this side of the street, even if you were to walk down the street to try and find one there is still no crosswalk allowing children to get across Argyle Way. This would not be as drastic of an issue if people were considerate or cared to slow down for children crossing but they do not. Everyday I am off work and walk my daughter to school I watch countless vehicles speeding in the school zone, I've even seen them going faster than the city's posted speed limit in a school zone as well! Its terrifying, I watch tons of children, trying to get to school, make a mad dash across the street because cars refuse to even slow for them let alone stop. You would think bad weather would at least slow them down, it makes their driving worse, they drive faster and take more risks when turning. Most of these drivers are parents themselves that I watch dropping off their kids after speeding into the school zone just so they can speed out. I've called the police 3 times and begged for assistance or at least an increased presence, I have yet to see a single police car. I have pulled out my phone and stood on the side of the road making it clear I'm either recording or taking pictures, this has proven to slow a few down (the ones who notice). I am begging that something be done for the safety of many children, the risk is too high and the loss of one child in an accident is too many.

Thank you for your consideration  
Sincerely Alicia Ashley

*Mayor*

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 06 2020**

**CITY OF PORT ALBERNI**

To the Mayor and City Council of Port Alberni

**March 6<sup>th</sup> 2020**

### **Russell Place and Russell Street Issues**

Heading toward Rainbow Gardens on the left side of Russell Place, there should be resident- parking only signs in front of the four houses. A no- parking sign should be erected at the turnaround at the end of Russell Place.

At present, the Rainbow Gardens employees, visitors and residents are using the turnaround as a parking area, which at times has blocked the end house's access to the road. In fact one Rainbow Garden's resident is using the turnaround, to store his R.V. camper. There should be no parking signs on the opposite side of Russell Place, as it is also being used by Rainbow Garden visitors, employees etc., making it difficult for those living on the street to back out of their driveways. The turnaround may well be a needed area in case of any emergency for fire trucks and first responders.

Presently, the Rainbow Gardens residents are at times put in a position of walking close to the middle of the road to access Russell Street, which is another problem in itself. Vehicles coming out of Rainbow Gardens are often; coming out at an unsafe speed and, in most cases do not come to a full stop at the stop sign before entering Russell Street. This is another area for safety, concern.

Cars approaching down the hill on Russell Street to River Road are not, in many incidences driving at a safe speed. This along with vehicles coming through the Russell Place stop sign makes it inevitable that at some point an accident is going to occur. Worst yet, residents from Rainbow Gardens with walkers (and at times wheel chairs) and those who are not overly stable are put in a precariously unsafe position on the hill. This also applies to local adults and children who are residents of Westporte.

Along with the signage suggested in the above paragraphs, a speed- bump coming out of Rainbows Gardens would slow the hurrying progression of the traffic heading for the stop sign. Another speed bump on Russell Street should be



installed, to slow traffic heading down the hill to River Road. Most Import a pedestrian walking lane similar to a bike lane heading down the hill that would be visible to oncoming traffic. With more vehicles that will be using this congested area in the future, safety should be a number one priority.

Another area of concern by Russell Place and Russell Street Residents, are the service trucks, supply trucks, garbage trucks and commercial vehicles heading into Rainbow Gardens. The noise from these vehicles coming up Russell Street hill is terrible. Following a non- hill flat path, where these vehicles won't have to gear down on a hill, would make the area much more peaceful again. A suggested alternate route could be Falls Road onto Oxford Road where vehicles do not have to crawl up the Russell Street hill creating excessive noise.

Alf Thompson

5311 Russell Street

Port Alberni B.C.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council	<input type="checkbox"/> Eng. & PW
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor	<input type="checkbox"/> Parks, Rec. & Heritage
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance	<input type="checkbox"/> Bylaw
<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk's	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>TAC</u>

☐ Agenda \_\_\_\_\_  
File # DVP #98 - Planning Dept.



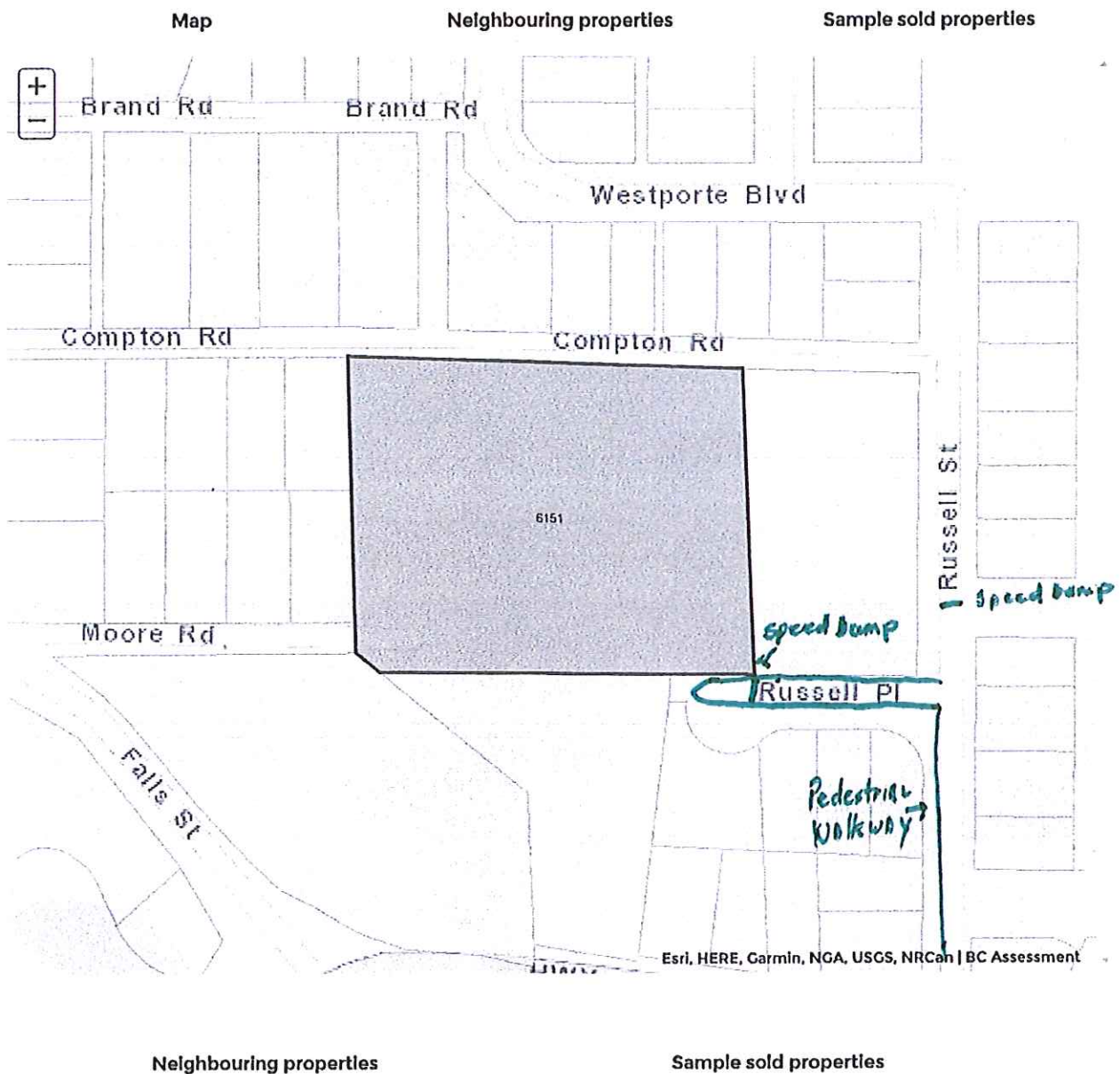
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## Veronica Irg

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**From:** Wilf Taekema  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 9:13 AM  
**To:** 'anita jansen'  
**Cc:** Veronica Irg  
**Subject:** RE: Gertrude St Traffic

Hi Anita; Gertrude Street certainly is one of the City's busier collector streets. I will forward your email and concerns to the local Traffic Advisory Committee which has representation from the City, ICBC, RCMP, Fire, School District, Transit and others. I can also tell you that the City is working with the BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to make improvements to the Beaver Ck Rd intersection at Hwy 4 (River Rd), which in time will alleviate some of the traffic volume currently using Gertrude Street.

Regards,

Wilf Taekema  
Dir. of Engineering & Public Works

City Hall, 4850 Argyle Street, Port Alberni, BC V9Y 1V8  
250.720.2838 W portalberni.ca

-----Original Message-----

From: anita jansen <tasljansen@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 7:09 PM  
To: Wilf Taekema <wilf\_taekema@portalberni.ca>  
Subject: Just a question

Hi there, I'm not sure if you are the person to speak to. I moved here just over a year ago. I live on the corner of Lathom and Gertrude. The traffic on Gertrude is like a highway. Is there a way we can get traffic to slow down and lessen? It is so loud and starts as early as 6 am and doesn't stop till 2 am. It's ridiculous. I do know that one problem is the intersection by the Petro can at the end of beaver creek is hard to get out onto so Gertrude sees more traffic. But it is very loud and I'm also having a hard time selling my house as people that have come through said it's way too busy and way too loud. The other thing is when kids are in school the bus stops along this street and makes me Leary for the kids walking. Thank you in advance for taking the time to read my email. I appreciate it.  
Regards, anita jansen

Sent from my iPhone



## Veronica Irg

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**From:** Ken Watson <ken-watson@shaw.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 5, 2020 8:57 AM  
**To:** Veronica Irg  
**Cc:** Twyla Slonski; Timothy Pley  
**Subject:** Fwd: residential handicapped parking

Hi Veronica,

Will you please put this issue onto the agenda of the next Advisory Traffic Committee. Let me know if you need more information

Thanks  
Ken

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**From:** "Twyla Slonski" <Twyla\_Slonski@portalberni.ca>  
**To:** "ken-watson" <ken-watson@shaw.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 30, 2020 9:29:43 AM  
**Subject:** FW: residential handicapped parking

Hi Ken,

Please see email threads below. Is this something that you are able to look into and consider?  
If so, I believe Ms. Vanderhoek resides at 3863 Anderson Ave.,

Thank you  
Twyla



**Twyla Slonski**

Deputy City Clerk

**A** City Hall, 4850 Argyle Street, Port Alberni, BC V9Y 1V8

**O** 250.720.2823 **M** 250.735.3388 **W** portalberni.ca



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**From:** Twyla Slonski  
**Sent:** July 30, 2020 9:28 AM  
**To:** 'Pam Vanderhoek' <queenmit@shaw.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: residential handicapped parking

Good morning Ms. Vanderhoek

On behalf of Mayor Minions, thank you for your email and inquiry about the possibility of securing a handicapped parking spot outside of your home.

I have shared your request with the City's Director of Engineering/Public Works for their review/consideration. City staff will be in touch with you directly after they have had an opportunity to review and consider your request.



If you need anything in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me. I may be reached directly at 250.720.2823 or by email.

Regards,

Twyla [on behalf of Mayor Minions]



**Twyla Slonski**

Deputy City Clerk

**A** City Hall, 4850 Argyle Street, Port Alberni, BC V9Y 1V8

**O** 250.720.2823 **M** 250.735.3388 **W** [portalberni.ca](http://portalberni.ca)



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**From:** Pam Vanderhoek <[queenmit@shaw.ca](mailto:queenmit@shaw.ca)>

**Sent:** July 16, 2020 7:10 PM

**To:** Sharie Minions <[sharie\\_minions@portalberni.ca](mailto:sharie_minions@portalberni.ca)>

**Subject:** Re: residential handicapped parking

Good morning,

I am writing to enquire about how to obtain a residential handicapped parking spot outside my home. I have paralysis on my left side leaving me difficulties with walking we are in the process of trying to fund a ramp for me to get out of my home, but I am looking more for my son on the Autism spectrum and is a darter(runs off easily) with the lack of parking on my street, his staff find it difficult to get a spot close enough to our home to safely get him to their vehicle to go to his services or a day out for respite. So my question is how do I apply to the city to have a spot allocated on our street in front of our home to make it safe for him to go out. Please help to direct me in order to get this accomplished for his safety as well as mine.

Thank you for your time,

Pam Vanderhoek

## Veronica Irg

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**From:** Ken Watson <ken-watson@shaw.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 10:39 AM  
**To:** Veronica Irg  
**Cc:** Wilf Taekema  
**Subject:** Fwd: Crosswalk at River Rd. And Russel St.

Hi Veronica,

Please include this email from Alicia Puusepp on the upcoming ATC Agenda

thank  
Ken

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**From:** "Alicia Puusepp" <aliciaeden@gmail.com>  
**To:** "ken-watson" <ken-watson@shaw.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 14, 2020 6:16:57 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Crosswalk at River Rd. And Russel St.

On Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 9:22 PM Alicia Puusepp <[aliciaeden@gmail.com](mailto:aliciaeden@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi Ken,

Alicia here. Alicia Puusepp. Contacting you regarding a personal matter which I would like to bring forward to the next Traffic Advisory Committee meeting for consideration.

As you know, I recently purchased the Riverbend Store with the intention of renovating the building and opening a new business to be called the Riverbend Cafe. I am also in the process of purchasing the small sliver of land across from the store on River Road which I hope to convert into a public space/pocket park.

With Westport growing substantially (future phases of residential development and Rainbow Gardens), the opening of our store, our future green space, River Park upgrades and the general volume of traffic moving through the area and coming out of Westport, I would like to request that the Committee consider supporting the addition of a push-activated pedestrian crosswalk at Russel St. on River Road or in close proximity to the intersection.

Can you please tell me the best course of action to bring this request forward? I understand the Committee will be meeting on Oct. 21st and would like to see this item on the agenda, recognizing of course that MOTI would be giving final direction on the requested upgrade.

Thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide.

Kind regards,  
Alicia and Chris