



CUMBERLAND 2050

GROWING TOGETHER

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN REVIEW



Official Community Plan Review 2023-2024

Phase 1 Public Engagement Report Community Vision and Hot Topics





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A. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INPUT

1. Overview of Phase 1 Engagement Activities

On Wednesday, May 24, 2023, the Village held a Plan your Community Street Event. The event gathered public input for both the Official Community Plan (OCP) review and the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) review. The section of Third Street between Penrith Avenue and Dunsmuir Avenue was closed and information boards were set up for both the OCP and the TMP reviews. The TMP review team also created a streetscape with bike lanes and a round-about. Over 175 residents participated in the event.

The goals for the OCP portion of the event were to:

- Gather input on a vision for Cumberland to 2050.
- Identify issues and hot topics for discussion at fall engagement events.

The event solicited input via several poster boards that encouraged participants to post comments on questions with regards to their vision for the community and on Official Community Plan (OCP) topics.

Following the May 24 event, the information boards, including comments received on sticky notes, were posted on the project webpage at connectcumberland.ca. The activities and questions asked at the in-person event were adapted to several online tools to allow residents who were not able to participate on May 24 to add their concerns, suggestions and ideas. The connectcumberland.ca site received 73 contributions.

Appendix 1 and 2 are a record of the written comments received at the May 24 event, Appendix 3 provides a photo record, Appendix 4 are drawings submitted at and following the event and Appendix 5 are the online comments received by July 12, 2023.

Part A of this report summarizes the public input received during phase 1 public engagement activities. Part B presents the elements of a community vision and a set of draft goals for the new OCP.

2. Favourite Places

At the May 24 event, participants were asked to mark their favourite place or places on a map and share something about the place. They were also able to show their agreement with favourite places posted by others by placing coloured sticky dots next to the place.

Knowing a community's favourite places helps create an understanding of what residents value about Cumberland and what characteristics of their community they want to see preserved and amplified.

The favourite places that were identified are listed below in order of the frequency they were mentioned. The number in brackets is the number of mentions of that place through both comments and sticky dots. Favourite places that are adjacent or overlap in area and could be grouped together are highlighted in the same colour.

1. Cumberland Community Forest (29)
2. Lake Park (10)
3. Coal Beach/Lower Perseverance (10)
4. Middle Earth (desired addition to Cumberland Community Forest) (8)
5. Old skid road trails in Coal Valley (above Camp Road greenway) (8)
6. Village Square (8)
7. Village Park (8)
8. No. 6 Mine Park (7)
9. Children's Wilderness Park (Lower Eastern Block Trails) (7)
10. Wellington Colliery Railway (7)
11. Eastern Block trails (5)
12. Village Dirt Jump and Skatepark (5)
13. Viewpoint on top of Beaumont Crescent, Coal Valley (5)
14. Hidden ravine trails, Coal Valley (4)
15. Solport Park (4)
16. Wetlands north of Maple Street (4)
17. Masonic Hall (great events) (4)
18. Paths to lake behind Coal Valley (3)
19. Ridgeway Trail (3)
20. West of Coal Valley Estates (3)
21. Sewage lagoon (2)
22. Pigeon Lake (2)
23. Maple Lake (2)
24. Beaufort Avenue (vacant lot) (2)
25. Teal Lake (2)

Residents also added the following broader comments:

- Bike to Comox Lake.
- More trails that are "commuter" style
- 9, 10 & 11 are all unprotected
- Dunsmuir Avenue and the hills, rivers and creeks

In the on-line environment, twelve contributors identified trails or places within the Cumberland Community Forest and surrounding forestry lands as favourite places. The most commonly

mentioned trails were the “eastern block” trails, located outside of the Community Forest, and mentioned by three people.

Village parks, greenways and greenspaces were also popular favourite places, identified by eight. Specific places are:

- Village square
- Wellington Colliery Trail
- No. 6 Mine Park
- The disc golf course
- Comox Lake and beach
- Totem poles at Peace Park
- Allen Lake

Other greenspaces and recreation areas around the Village valued by residents are Coal Beach/Whyte’s Bay, trails off Bevan Road, Allen Lake

Within urban neighbourhoods, favourite places include view spots at the top of Beaumont Crescent and Lindale Avenue. The ridge line trail off Kendall Avenue is also mentioned.

Summary

The Cumberland Community Forest plays a big role in the Village’s identity. It was the favourite place most commonly mentioned. Both online participants and *Plan your Community* event participants value the recreational trails, the forest and the wetlands and the animals this natural area supports.

Participants also expressed their fondness for areas and trails adjacent to, but not part of the Community Forest Park, including Middle Earth and, the Children’s Wilderness Park/Eastern Block trails and the Ridge Trail.

Other unprotected natural areas that are favourite places are Maple Lake, Teal Lake, and the wetlands north of Maple Street.

Comox Lake is an important part of the local fabric. The Lake Park and Coal Beach and Lower Perseverance Creek were favourite places mentioned a number of times.

Municipal parks, including Village Park, Village Square, No. 6 Mine Park and Solport Park, are valued for the greenspace they provide, as community gathering and event places, and for their connection to Cumberland’s heritage. The newly erected totem poles in Peace Park have become a favourite place for one online contributor. Allen Lake, the Village’s drinking water supply is valued for the habitat it provides for Western toad.

Businesses and venues in the downtown core were also favourite places. The Village Bakery, the Waverley, the new Gravity Mountain Bike shop and the food trucks on the same property were mentioned. The Masonic Hall is valued as a venue for “great events of all types.”

The favourite places list is dominated by natural areas and parks, showing how much those who commented value the surrounding natural environment. Downtown businesses and the community spaces they provide are also valued very much.

3. Share Your Vision

Both at the May 24 Plan your Community Street event and in the online environment, participants were asked to write their vision of Cumberland in 2050. The purpose of this activity was to identify the elements of a vision that is to guide the goals, objectives, policies and actions in the updated OCP.

The following key themes emerged from the May 24 event contributions:

- Greenspace and trees
- Food gardens
- Climate resilient
- Strong sense of community and a small-town feel
- Inclusive, equitable and accessible
- Reconciled with First Nations
- Strong arts and culture community
- Heritage protected
- Safe streets and calm traffic
- Bike-friendly
- A pedestrian-friendly downtown
- Walkable community
- Gently densified downtown
- Schools within walking distance of residential areas
- More affordable housing
- More rental housing
- A downtown that is well-designed and rich in character
- Child and family friendly
- Public amenity infrastructure (benches, picnic tables, covered stages, indigenous art)
- A strong locally-based economy
- Diverse recreation opportunities

The themes expressed in the vision statements provided by online contributors, pick up many of the same themes as provided at the in-person event:

- Working closely with First Nations
- An inclusive and equitable community
- Sense of community and belonging
- Thriving arts and music community
- Pedestrian and bike-friendly
- Protection of the natural environment
- Parks, greenspace and amenities (benches)
- Action on climate change
- Improved indoor and outdoor recreation
- Infrastructure improvements
- More services in the community (health, grocery store, etc.)
- Support of small businesses and a healthy local economy
- Affordable housing
- Heritage celebrated
- Fiscally responsible

A transcription of the favourite places and elements of a vision for Cumberland to 2050 shared at the May 24 event is captured in Appendix 1. Appendix 3 provides a photo record of the favourite places and vision poster boards with the comments. Appendix 5 shares the favourite places and vision statements received online via connectcumberland.ca

4. What Do You Love About Cumberland?

The Plan your Community Street event included a table where children and parents could draw or write what they love about Cumberland. The drawings are attached as Appendix 4.

Drawings and comments about what people love about Cumberland include:

- The playground [2]
- Community [3]
- The Village feel
- Community engagement
- Everything is close
- That it is fun!
- Main Street activity, local stores, restaurants
- Bikes, mountain biking
- The people, the diversity of people
- The arts
- Community events and shows, the Wave,
- Forests [3], trees and wetlands,

- The trail network and walkability.

There was also a suggestion to re-align the crosswalk from the parking lot behind the Cultural Centre to the Recreation Centre and add pedestrian-activated flashing lights to make it safer.

There was no online component for this activity.

5. What is on Your Mind?

The *Plan the Community Street Event* asked residents to share what is on their mind related to each of the existing Official Community Plan policy areas: Built Environment, Economy, Natural Environment, and Community Well-Being. The comments received will inform the discussion topics to be developed for Phase 2 public engagement events.

The comments received were sorted by theme. Where a count of comments/sticky dots is reported, that count includes the original comment and the number of sticky dots in support of that comment. A few comments that do not relate directly to the Built Environment but relate to one of the other three OCP policy areas were moved under the appropriate headings.

The themes and a brief summary of comments under each theme are provided below. A transcription of the comments is available in Appendix 2 and in the photo record in Appendix 3.

5.1 Built Environment

The following summarizes the comments received at the in-person event on May 24.

Downtown Enhancement

Topics mentioned included a central gathering space/town square, closing one or a few blocks of Dunsmuir Avenue to traffic, expanding patios, and attracting more commercial and mixed uses.

Views on design guidelines for the downtown core were divided between those who wanted stricter guidelines to retain the charm of the buildings on Dunsmuir, e.g. through more consistent façade themes, and avoid “ugly boxes” and those who wanted less stringent guidelines.

Balance Greenspace and Development

Thirteen comments/sticky dots in support centred around incorporating more greenspaces, trees and green infrastructure into new developments, developing to the natural environment and providing for alternative transportation.

Eight expressed their concerns about the future development within the Eastern Block (the wetland and forested area east and south of Village Park) which lies within the lands owned by Cayet.

One comment asked for less reliance on developer funded reports and studies.

Affordable Housing

Eleven participants expressed their desire to see more affordable housing built. Suggestions also included providing a density bonus for affordable housing, providing more diverse affordable housing options and working with First Nations.

Density/Multi-Family Development

Twenty-four commented on the Village needing more density and/or multi-family development as well as more diverse building types, gentle density and middle missing housing. Two comments expressed concern about too much density.

Development Application Process

One comment asked for more staff or streamlining of the approval of subdivision and other development applications.

Infrastructure Needs

Infrastructure topics raised include addressing financially sustainable infrastructure, less streetlights in areas of Coal Valley, sidewalks and street trees everywhere, and multi-use pathways, in particular to Courtenay.

Fiscal Responsibility

Related to the infrastructure topic, one online contributor asked that the Village grow responsibly, ensuring growth does not outpace available services.

Urban Containment

An urban growth boundary to densify existing residential areas was identified by a few participants (6). (Note, urban containment is also mentioned under the Natural Environment policy area below).

Public Amenities

Several participants identified desired public amenities including more playgrounds, community use of the firehall, covered picnic tables, a community garden and an outdoor climbing wall.

Food Gardens

Comments from online participants included providing space for community gardens, in particular as part of multi-family residential development.

Alternative Transportation

Five comments/sticky dot votes related to a bike paths network around town, to Courtenay and to Comox Lake and treed pathways connecting neighbourhoods.

Bylaw Enforcement

Three comments/sticky dot vote were with regards to use and enforcement of covenants. One person raised the issue of safe transport and taking illegal vehicles off the road.

Summary

Key concerns and suggestions raised in relation to the Built Environment include creating a pedestrian-friendly downtown, providing more greenspace and public amenities, and improving alternate transportation and pedestrian infrastructure as the Village grows.

In relation to housing and future growth, participants wanted to explore more housing options through multi-family development, gentle density/infill close to the downtown core, a possible containment boundary to prevent sprawl, and how to increase housing affordability.

5.2 Economy

Downtown Commercial Area Expansion

Three comments/sticky dots requested an analysis of the value of the downtown commercial area and expansion of that area. They wanted to see consideration of long-term financial costs of new roads, development and industrial lands to guide decision-making. A further two comments/sticky dot wanted to see downtown beautification, more spaces for new businesses and draws for tourists who visit the Village not for recreational.

Diverse Local Economic Opportunities

Seven May 24 event participants wanted to see diverse local economic opportunities and local businesses such as co-working spaces, an affordable healthy kitchen, a vegan restaurant, Cumberland local currency and passports and an OCP that reflects a diverse community.

Online contributions identified the important role small businesses play in the local economy and wanted to see the Village providing support for small businesses. One specific support mentioned was tax incentives.

Arts and Culture

Seven comments/sticky dots wanted to see investment in arts and culture. The need for a theatre was also mentioned.

Environmentally Sustainable Economy

Encouraging an environmentally sustainable economy was on the minds of twelve participants. Participants wanted to see the economy be sustainable and make climate and the environment the top priority. Specific actions mentioned include green building materials, adoption of the BC Energy step code, efficient homes, a zero carbon step code and carbon storing materials, water conservation, robotic green economy jobs and more industry taxes.

Urban Farming/Agriculture

Comments expressed support for more local food and encouraging agricultural food production in the Village. Community gardens, seed share sheds, drying sheds were mentioned as ways to support urban agriculture.

Tourism

Views on the role tourism plays in the local economy were mixed. A few questioned whether tourism benefits the community. Trails tourism was seen by one participant as low impact and of benefit to the community and wanted to see it promoted. Yet another participant to see more diverse tourism not related to recreation.

Summary

Main concerns and suggestions under “Economy” included considering long-term costs of servicing commercial and industrial areas in decision-making, creating diverse local economy including support for arts and culture, and urban agriculture, and ensuring the economy is environmentally sustainable. Feelings about encouraging more tourism, especially tourism related to recreation, were mixed.

5.3 Natural Environment

Cumberland Community Forest

One comment asked that the terms of the conservation covenant on the Community Forest not be broken.

Urban Forest

Protection of the urban forest and tree planting were identified in 10 comments. Participants wanted to see protection of urban tree cover, heritage trees, less grass, more native/biodiverse vegetation, more tree planting, and adequate soil for trees in new neighbourhoods.

Protection of Native Species

Two comments related to the protection of native species. One asked for native species restoration and paying the K'ómoks First Nation for their input into that effort, the other asked for a cat bylaw that would keep cats indoors – presumably to keep them from hunting and injuring or killing birds.

Climate Change

Building for climate change, for example by considering trees, water and food security was a concern mentioned/voted on by five May 24 event participants. The online contribution wanted to see a safe bike network throughout the Comox Valley to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and encourage personal fitness.

Air Quality

In relation to clean air, expediting the transition away from wood stoves was mentioned.

Wildfire Prevention / Resilience

Three comments/sticky dots related to reducing wildfire risk around the Village. Actions suggested were fuel management, fire smart community planning, and a development area permit for interface fire and seismic resilience.

Protection of Greenspace

Comments asked for the protection of wetlands, ecological corridors, streams and creeks, as well as greenspaces with local flora and fauna for people. They also asked for development to dedicate more greenspace that has habitat value.

Urban Containment

An urban containment boundary was brought up as well as no development in the Eastern block. (Urban containment was also mentioned under the Built Environment topic).

Summary

Concerns about the natural environment reflect a desire for greater protection of Cumberland's urban forest, the Community Forest, sensitive ecosystems and wildlife habitat. Climate change and air quality are also a concern. A safe bike network is seen as a key way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Urban containment is suggested to reduce the expansion of development into the natural areas.

5.4 Community Well-Being

Recreation, Arts and Culture

Comments on recreation, arts and culture included the need to balance recreation interests with arts and culture, appreciation for the accessibility of the recreation centre and the tot gym. Ideas for improving the recreation facilities include renovation of the existing recreation centre, a new fitness and community centre within the Cultural Centre, and a new recreation centre with multi-purpose spaces.

A suggestion was also made for an outdoor pool at Village Park.

Inclusion, Equity and Accessibility

Accessibility, in particular accessibility of social spaces, inclusion, social justice, and equity was on the mind of three participants. In addition, one participant encouraged continuing to provide opportunities for community connections.

Seniors Housing / Ageing in Place

Getting seniors' housing built in Coal Valley Estates and supporting seniors ageing in place was mentioned by three participants.

Outdoor Public Amenities

Additional outdoor public amenities were mentioned by 16 participants. Desired amenities include benches on walking routes, climbing boulders in parks, shaded picnic tables, more bike parking, outdoor gyms, shade trees in public spaces, a dog and kids play café, and a playground and park in the new development above Kendal Avenue.

Comments on dogs in natural areas diverged. Four participants wanted to see dog leashing enforced in natural areas while one commented having dog leash areas in the wild areas around the Village.

Car Free Downtown, Traffic and Street Calming

The idea of a car free downtown or a car free side street off Dunsmuir Avenue was brought up by several participants.

Participants also suggested traffic and street calming measures to create more spaces for gathering and sitting and to make the streets safer.

Alternative Transportation Network

Ten participants wanted to see improvements to the Village's alternative transportation network. Suggestions included an e-bike network, building sidewalks on at least one side of the street in old Cumberland, creating an off-road bike path to Courtenay, and better bus service between Cumberland and Courtenay. A paved ring road/multi-use pathway in the lower forest area for walkers, medi-chairs, strollers, scooters and road bikes was also suggested.

Medical and Health and Wellness Services

Two participants mentioned the need for doctors in Cumberland, having a clinic, indoor health and wellness spaces and counselling offices.

Affordability

The link between affordability and community well-being was made by three participants who wanted to see an increase in affordable housing and affordable rental housing.

Financial Prudence

The online contribution on this topic mentioned rising property taxes and the importance of financial prudence to keep property taxes in check and help in particular renters.

Summary

Topics provided by participants under *Community Well-Being* include promotion of arts and culture; improvements to or replacement of recreation facilities; consideration of social inclusion, accessibility, and social justice; ageing in place; additional outdoor public amenities; pedestrianization of all or parts of the downtown core; improvements to the alternative transportation network; access to medical, health and wellness services; affordability; and financial responsibility.

B. DRAFT VISION AND GOALS

6. Vision Statements

Through the contributions made both at the May 24 *Plan your Community event* and online, the elements of a community vision emerge. The following vision statements were reviewed and refined with the Advisory Planning Commission at their July 13, 2023 meeting. The statements are based on the vision elements identified by the community and listed in section 3 above. They will be crafted into a single cohesive vision statement to be reviewed with the public during phase 2 public engagement events.

- a. The community values and is reconciled with First Nations; (*reconciliation with First Nations*)
- b. Residents enjoy Village-feel. Neighbours know each other and feel connected to the larger community regardless of age, gender, social status or income (*Village-feel, diversity, equity and social inclusion, child and family friendly*)
- c. Cumberland offers housing options for all income levels (*more affordable and more rental housing*)
- d. A thriving arts, culture and music community, public events, festivals and concerts, enriches daily life in Cumberland (*strong arts and culture community*)
- e. Residents and visitors enjoy a vibrant downtown, rich in character and history, safe for pedestrians, and home to thriving small locally-owned businesses (*strong local economy, well-designed downtown, walkable, heritage protected*)
- f. The Village has ample parks, greenspaces, and urban trees for residents and visitors to enjoy. Surrounding the Village are healthy wetlands, lakes, streams and forests (*greenspace and trees*).
- g. Outdoor recreation is complemented by diverse indoor recreation opportunities (*diverse recreation opportunities*)
- h. Community hubs, such as schools, commercial centres, outdoor recreation areas are well-connected with safe cycling and pedestrian pathways that extend all the way to the City of Courtenay boundary (*alternative transportation*)
- i. Food gardens and environmentally-friendly urban agriculture provide habitat for pollinators and urban wildlife while providing healthy local food for residents (*food gardens*)
- j. New development is green and complements the feel and character of the rest of the community (*new development that is green and connected to rest of community*)
- k. Climate actions have reduced carbon emissions from all sectors and the Village has achieved true net-zero greenhouse gas emissions community (*climate change mitigation*)

- I. Municipal infrastructure is resilient to severe weather events and other climate change impacts (*climate change adaptation*)

7. Goals

In support of the above vision statements, ten overarching goals are identified to provide focus and guide priorities and policies in the OCP. The goals were reviewed and refined with the Advisory Planning Commission. Each goal will be further developed and described with a short statement to clarify the intent of the goal. The final draft goals will be shared and confirmed with the public during Phase 2 Public Engagement Activities.

1. Reconciliation with First Nations
2. A diverse and socially inclusive community
3. A healthy and biodiverse ecosystems
4. A climate-responsible community
5. A diverse parks and greenways system serving all ages and abilities
6. Diverse housing options and attainable housing for all residents
7. A vibrant downtown core
8. A thriving arts and culture community
9. A strong and sustainable local economy
10. A safe and interconnected alternative transportation network that ties into a larger Comox Valley network

Appendix 1: Comments on Favourite Places and Vision Poster Boards

Share about your favourite place(s)

The following are organized by the number placed on the map by participants.

1. Village Park	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Trails to walk the dog, bike, hike to viewpoints and finish with an ice cream from Love's.	6
Community	
2. Area Above Camp Road Greenway	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Old skid road trails in Coal Valley	7
3. No. 6 Mine Park	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
The #6 Park is an incredible gathering spot with room for all ages. It provides corridor and shade. It provides history. It provides a spot to reflect and relax	6
4. Cumberland Community Forest	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Access point & yellow gate	22
Gateway to so many trails- use it 2 times a day and its why we live here	
Love the forest. Need to "calm" and "slow" this space.	
Wetlands, love the frogs, beavers, birds, etc.	
Community forest is big part of what makes town unique and desirable, it gives the town a sense of identity related to health & wellness	
My yard – the forest & woods behind in the yard.	
Cumberland trail network	
5. Viewpoint on top of Beaumont Crescent, Coal Valley	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Viewpoint on top of Beaumont is a neighbourhood treasure. Make it a park please. The best view in the Valley	4
6. Paths to the lake behind Coal Valley	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Paths to lake behind Coal Valley	2
7. Solport Park	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Protect trees & habitat	3
More of this please	

8. Lake Park	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Magical place with much potential	9
9. Children's Wilderness Park (Lower Eastern Block)	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Love walking the eastern block	6
10. Eastern Block Trails	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Eastern Block – New Regional Trailhead? Trent Main?	4
11. Middle Earth	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Middle Earth (future CCFS expansion?)	7
12. Wellington Colliery Railway Corridor	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Wellington Colliery Railway	5
Enjoy the Colliery line	
13. Coal Beach/Lower Perseverance	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Fire Protection – love the lake, feel vulnerable to fire when so many partying on the lake.	6
Too many people & dogs in forest.	
Noisy	
Animals that had this place as their habitat are leaving or left	
14. Village Square	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Community connections: Santa's workshop, summer concert series, tree light up.	7
15. Masonic Hall	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Great events of all types	3
16. West of Coal Valley Estates	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
I love the swampy trails back here. I love having all the birds and frogs in this area	2
17. Ridgeway Trail	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Ridgeway trail	2
18. Hidden ravine trails (Camp Road Greenway)	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement

Hidden ravine, trails	3
19. Wetlands North of Maple Street	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
The frogs in the pond and snowshoeing around it in the winter	3

20. The Sewage Lagoon	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
For birds	1
21. Pigeon Lake	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Pigeon Lake	1
22. Maple Lake	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Maple Lake	1
23. Beaufort Avenue (vacant lot)	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Amazing number of birds, racoons & squirrels in this small green space	1
24. Village Dirt Jumps/Skatepark	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
Mulch jump, concrete pumptrack, picnic shelter, better signage	4
25. Teal Lake	Votes for Favourite Place
Protect our water	1

Other Comments	
Bike to Comox Lake.	
More trails that are "commuter" style	
9, 10 & 11 are all unprotected	
Dunsmuir Avenue and the hills, rivers and creeks	

Share Your Vision (organized by theme)

	Comment	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
	Greenspace and Trees	
1	Development planned for greenspace & community space. Protected trees less Air B&B's	
2	Planned green space everywhere. That helps to create habitat for flora Y& fauna and serves as places for people to gather.	1
3	Green spaces and nooks. Climate conscious. Strong community fabric	1
4	More trees / boulevard	1
5	More trees within the Village. Canopy along all streets.	3
6	More green is better	
7	Please save trees in new developments. We live in a heat island on Kendal.	2
8	Shade trees provide shade & reduced cooling bills. Less wind damage to homes & looks great. Mix of food production is good too.	1
9	Protect our urban canopy	
10	Please preserve trees and encourage infill over sprawl. No more blasted landscape neighbourhoods.	
11	Residential containment boundary PLEASE	2
12	Challenges – Human-nature interactions. Connectivity-bikes to all of CU safely.	
13	No empty buildings in the Village, flourishing with small independent businesses. Bike lane to lake & Courtenay. More parks in residential areas	1
	Food Gardens	
14	Aspire – we have a thriving urban forest we have front lawn food gardens. We have clean water and healthy air.	
15	Challenge – trees in the Village vs. food security & gardens on small lots. Prefer to have my yard filled with rather than shade trees	2
	Climate Resilient	
16	“Slow Village” “Climate resilience”	
17	Challenges – Climate change/drought, water security, affordability, unconstrained development	
18	Challenges – Sustainable growth, climate risks, overcrowding, expensive housing and we lose all our Village flavour to rich people.	
	Strong Sense of Community and a Small Town Feel	
19	More events to culture & sense of community and belonging	
20	Love the spirit, sense of community	
21	Keeps a Village feel – don't turn us into a tourist trap	
22	Mountain small town feel! Sense of community as we grow	
23	Love: the real sense of community with lots of opportunities to connect outside with others. The Village vibe, small town, slow pace, real connection.	2
24	Love – The Dodge City vibe, needs to continue to exist. The slightly “outlaw” flavour with the blend of artists and culture makers. The dogs of Cumberland.	2
25	Aspire – A village still. Where people know each other through shared community experiences. Where the imperfect is perfect.	2
26	Community	

	Inclusive, Equitable and Accessible	
27	An inclusive community where folks with a diversity of socio-economic backgrounds can thrive and have access to services & support	1
28	More affordable!!! Less vehicle centric, more multicultural.	5
29	Totally accessible	
30	Accessible & low barrier for all. Walkable!	2
	Reconciled with First Nations	
31	Multi-cultural arts. Reconciliation	1
	Strong Arts, Culture Community / Heritage Protected	
32	Arts grants/programs to support diversity and keep cultural identity.	
33	Support culture & heritage assets	
34	Need economic social cultural diversity – not just sports! Art/music/heritage. Thought!!	1
35	Artist spaces stay affordable (ex: Masonic Hall for shows).	
36	Festivals	
37	Concerts, Festivals, Family Gatherings	
38	Would be lovely to have a small theatre “Ilo Ilo”	3
39	Heritage/design covenants to avoid more monstrosities like the Rideout Building and the one next to it.	1
40	Love the heritage	
	Bike-friendly	
41	Let’s build a paved multi-use “ring road path” around Cumberland (for walking, commuter bikes, skateboards, scooters, strollers)! See town of Lucca in Italy for example. The route would use Colliery Trail, go around greenbelt near sewer plant and other “green” periphery of town. It would tie into main road for coffee, ice cream, etc. Make work attraction!	
42	Easy commute by bike within the Village and outside the community	4
43	Non-car connectivity to Courtenay, i.e., bike community off highway	2
44	Safe active transport path connecting Cumberland to Courtenay, Royston etc.	
R12	Challenges – Human-nature interactions. Connectivity-bikes to all of CU safely.	
45	No empty buildings in the Village, flourishing with small independent businesses. Bike lane to lake & Courtenay. More parks in residential areas	1
	Safe Streets and Calm Traffic	
46	Safe, traffic calmed. Especially by Village Park	
47	Traffic calming & max 30-40 in all of Cumberland (and enforced). More sidewalks. Bike lane to lake	1
48	More roundabouts, fewer 4-way stops. No traffic lights	
49	Calming downtown traffic – we’re a thoroughfare for boats, recreation visitors day-use mountain biking.	4
	A Pedestrian-Friendly Downtown	
50	Car free downtown. Dunsmuir blocks	1
51	Pedestrianize downtown	
52	A few car-free side street blocks instead of all of Dunsmuir	
	Walkable Community / Gently Densified Downtown	
53	Walkable for all needs, strong spirit of community and volunteerism, resilient	
54	A dense, walkable, vibrant community with greenways. Focus on gentle density & infill rather than sprawl. More people around main street to support commercial	2

55	No sprawl	3
	Schools within Walking Distance of Residential Areas	
56	Second primary school for kids to walk to school (in new development area)	
	More Affordable and More Rental Housing	
57	More rental housing – of all shapes and sizes. More options	1
58	More diversity in housing – apartments, townhouses, duplexes. Affordable housing	
59	Affordable housing projects are needed.	
60	Affordable housing units & NO more ugly boxes – heritage covenants & green spaces	2
61	Housing	
R28	More affordable!!! Less vehicle centric, more multicultural.	5
R1	Development planned for greenspace & community space. Protected trees less Air B&B's	
R17	Challenges – Sustainable growth, climate risks, overcrowding, expensive housing and we lose all our Village flavour to rich people.	
	New Development is Green and Connected to Rest of Community	
62	Challenges – new development & subdivisions that don't cover long-term cost of maintenance, don't require adequate park & playground, low density, no greenways	3
63	Be more intentional with new developments. Don't allow developers to just slap-up big houses on small lots and cut down all trees.	
64	When adding new neighbourhoods, incorporating the rest of the town, i.e., tin town has a nice flow to the town still & not its separate bubble.	
65	More building permit monitoring & enforcement to make sure developers don't do illegal things!	1
65	Rate of development and lack of accountability is threatening the small town/community/connected to nature feel of Cumberland	2
	A Downtown that is Well-Designed and Rich in Character	
R60	Affordable housing units & NO more ugly boxes – heritage covenants & green spaces	2
R38	Heritage/design covenants to avoid more monstrosities like the Rideout Building and the one next to it.	1
66	No more height variances on Dunsmuir Avenue	
	Child and Family Friendly	
67	Love: That we live as best we can in harmony with nature. That the Village is filled with children and families	1
	Public Amenity Infrastructure	
68	More benches, bike lock ups	3
69	Composting toilet	
70	Permanent covered stage structures. Way more indigenous art.	
71	More multi-family with shared large outdoor common spaces	2
	A Strong Locally-based Economy	
72	I would love to see it vibrant, energetic & thriving all the while maintaining the smaller village vibe. A thriving downtown with the continued small locally owned shops.	1
R34	Need economic social cultural diversity – not just sports! Art/music/heritage. Thought!!	1

R43	No empty buildings in the Village, flourishing with small independent businesses. Bike lane to lake & Courtenay. More parks in residential areas	1
73	More options for quiet professional services office space. Doesn't need to be in Village centre as its not retail/foot-traffic dependent	
74	Continue to discourage chain stores, restaurants (keep the local flavour)	2
	Diverse Recreation Opportunities	
75	Multi-use/purpose recreation centre/meeting space	
76	Pickle Ball	

Appendix 2: Comments on OCP Topic Poster Boards - Organized by Theme

Built Environment

	Comment	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
	Downtown Enhancement	
1	Central gathering place “town square”	
2	Close one or a few blocks of Dunsmuir to vehicle traffic. Expand patios.	
3	Town centre design guidelines (DPA) Development Permit Area	
4	Less emphasis on “heritage” values in order to attract main street commercial. Lets fill in the empty spaces and character rather than more stringent heritage rules.	1
5	Strict heritage design guidelines. No more ugly boxes!	2
6	Allow for more commercial and mixed-use zoning in the core	1
	Balance Greenspaces and Developments	
7	Mandatory green spaces in all developments!	
8	Towns in the Netherlands seem to balance growth, maintaining natural green spaces and non-car traffic well. Not sure if it could work in Cumby but it would be awesome.	
9	Sidewalks everywhere, with trees	
10	Trees along all the streets	1
11	Eastern Block Development Agreement. *Negotiate perhaps giving density bonus for developing in a small portion of the land and preserving the rest i.e., cluster development in smaller area (developer get same or more lots/units but in less space/area)	2
12	Incorporate pollinator corridors & green stormwater infrastructure into the built environment.	
13	DWC – Develop with Care should be a constant guiding principle. That would include affordability, food security, traffic reducing and calming, fire smart, safe walking and cycling. I am particularly thinking of building at the ravine.	1
14	Growth: - More greenspaces in new developments - New developments that are built into existing topography (not flatten and level). - Minimum topsoil requirements in new developments (Coal Creek has almost none)	
15	Less reliance on developer funded reports & studies	
16	I do not support Cayet development – lets change zoning to get development (or lack of it) that we want	4
	Affordable housing	
18	Build social housing. Public	
19	Less expensive housing	5
20	Policy for density bonus program development – provides density bonus to developers that build for example – affordable housing or that develop in town centre for example (or that provide much needed amenities) *see Local Government Act.	

	Comment	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
21	Affordable diverse housing options. Work with First Nations <i>(to be considered under a new topic: Reconciliation)</i>	1
17	Alternative living structures – we can do something unique here (micro-communities/neighbourhoods)	
	Density / Multi-Family Development	
22	Keep tradition of high density & lots of transportation corridors.	1
23	We need more multi family housing so we don't turn into just another suburban sprawl.	3
24	More density. Multi-family.	
25	Use 100-year community lifecycle costing to determine what types of development are financially feasible (hint: higher density)	
26	Limit single family development	
27	Let's build up not out. No more sprawling spec homes	2
28	Densification. Enforce setbacks.	
29	More diverse building types, multi-family gentle density, missing middle housing. Can't Village find way to claw back increased land value when zoning changes & use \$ for affordable housing or amenities.	2
30	Enable infill on large properties – e.g., garden suites. Provides option for rentals, creates more housing choices	
31	Spectrum of housing type	2
32	Densification rather than urban sprawl. Yes to balanced heritage preservation. Invest in connectivity.	3
33	We're a Village, let's not densify like a city.	
34	Light and sun are important – don't density upwards – block people's ability to grow food	
	Development Application Process	
35	Hire more staff or streamline review and approval of subdivision, development permits, etc.	
	Infrastructure Needs	
36	Address infrastructure limitations before growth	
37	Inclusive infrastructure that is beautiful & sustainably built & operated	1
38	How about a less is more approach to streetlights in the development below Kentmere, Beaufort	1
39	More collaboration in developing public infrastructure, i.e., Village should work with School District. New Village infrastructure (like Firehall) needs to be built for multi-purpose use.	1
R9	Sidewalks everywhere, with trees	
40	Infrastructure for sustainable transportation – walking & biking	1
41	Multi use path to Courtenay!	
	Urban Containment	
42	Residential containment boundaries please	2
43	Draw a growth boundary around existing Cumberland. No development beyond until densification targets met in designated areas (downtown & nearby)	2

	Comment	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
	Public Amenities	
44	More playgrounds please	
45	Allow community/public use of the expensive Firehall. Yes! More shared space	1
46	Some covered picnic tables (see Whistler's example)	
47	Community garden for Cumberland	4
48	Outdoor climbing wall in park.	
	Alternative Transportation	
49	Designate a bike path network around town, to Courtenay, and the lake, etc.	2
50	Shady paths to get around town. Connectors with trees (like Stoneleigh)	1
	Bylaw Enforcement	
51	Use covenants and enforce them	2
52	Safe transport including illegal vehicles being taken /kept off the roads	

	Comments under Built Environment moved to other sections:	Section
1	Community gardens, seed share sheds, drying sheds, composting toilets	Economy, Community-Well Being
2	Economy = compatible with carbon – constrained word—Huge Opportunity! Vancouver Economic Commission sees a \$3.3 billion dollar green building materials sector! We need: - carbon-storing materials e.g., hemp insulation, hemp flooring, hemp all sorts of things e.g. straw insulation, concrete alternatives, etc. Big Opportunity more for Bevan lands. Agri-photo voltaics Hemp paired with elevated solar (big financial opportunity for farmers/fallow ALR)	Economy
3	Clean air. Expedite the transition from wood stoves.	Environment
4	Cat bylaw. Keep cats indoors	Environment
5	Love the heritage	Share Your Vision
6	A dog and/or kid play café in the back parking lot	Community-Well Being

Economy

	Comments	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
	Downtown Commercial Area Expansion	
1	Analyze and determine value of downtown commercial and work to expand this. Consider long-term (100 year) financial costs of new roads/developments/industrial lands and use this to guide decision making.	2
2	Downtown beautification!! Much more spaces to accommodate new businesses in the downtown. Build our downtown to draw more tourism to this town that is outside of recreation. Diversify our tourist population	1
	Diverse Local Economic Opportunities	
3	Co-working space with incentives for local biz & entrepreneurs	2
4	Affordable health kitchen	
5	Cumberland local currency & locals' passport for incentives in biz.	
6	Community driven future OCP – not future driven by mountain bikers	
7	Water stations, vegan restaurant	
	Arts and Culture	
8	Investing in arts & culture builds community strength, let's balance our recreational focus please. Comment below: What recreational focus?	2
9	We desperately need a theatre in this Village. Build a black box. Fix church.	2
	Environmentally Sustainable Economy	
10	Economy must address climate change! • Big financial opportunity • Green building materials • BC Energy step code • Requires efficient homes BC zero carbon step code, carbon storing materials	2
11	Economic growth on a finite planet is ill advised, lets strengthen the social, cultural, environmental fabric of community.	2
12	Sustainable inclusive, diverse economic system that makes climate & environment a top priority.	1
13	Commit to investing in & sustaining current assets. i.e., Cumberland Trail Network, non-profit orgs (UROC, CCSS, Museum, etc).	1
14	Encourage water conservation. Share water consumption data publicly!	
15	More industry taxes. Robotic green economy jobs.	
	Urban Farming / Agriculture	
16	More emphasis on local food, less on arts and culture. Let's have both	
17	Encourage agricultural production on undeveloped land. Offer incentives to land owners? (Provincial Government?)	3
18	Encourage food production and urban farming. Ensure arts and culture stays strong with affordable venues and outdoor opportunities.	1
19	Community gardens, seed share sheds, drying sheds, composting toilets.	
	Tourism	
20	Lets talk about tourism, who does it benefit, what are the costs, who drives this agenda?	1

	Comments	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
21	Being a “destination” isn’t great for community wellbeing. Let’s get these things in sync.	1
22	Promote & invest in trails tourism. It is low impact and benefits the community.	
R2	Downtown beautification!! Much more spaces to accommodate new businesses in the downtown. Build our downtown to draw more tourism to this town that is outside of recreation. Diversify our tourist population	1

Natural Environment

	Comment	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
	Cumberland Community Forest	
1	The community forest has a covenant, please stop breaking the terms of the covenant.	
	Urban Forest	
2	Trees	
3	Urban tree cover. Less grass, more biodiverse vegetation	2
4	Protect our urban forest. Ensure we work together to keep heritage trees. OCP Bylaw re: 60m DCW for all development with parks	3
5	Continuing to add more green/trees, trees will help keep the town cooler. Also colourful buildings? Its so funky and cool.	
6	Challenge: The new neighbourhood design (separated sidewalks, planting strips) do not provide adequate soil for trees.	
	Protection of Native Species	
7	Native species restoration – pay KFN for their input	
8	Cat bylaw. Keep cats indoors	
	Climate Change	
9	Build for climate change, e.g. trees, water, food security	4
	Air Quality	
10	Clean air. Expedite the transition from wood stoves.	
	Wildfire Prevention / Resilience	
11	Wildfire/fuel management surrounding Village. Fire Smart community	2
12	Consider safety & resilience. DPA for interface fire, seismic resilience, etc.	
	Protection of Greenspace	
13	Protect surrounding wetlands, ecological corridors, streams, creeks.	6
14	Developments need to dedicate more greenspace – that has habitat value, trees/intact forest	2
15	Lots of greenspace integrated into all area that supports local flora & fauna also beautiful for people to spend time in	1
	Urban Containment	
16	No development in the eastern block	
17	Urban containment boundary	1
	Comments under Natural Environment moved to another section:	Section
	Playground and park in newer development (above Kendal)	Community Well-Being

Community Well-Being & Other

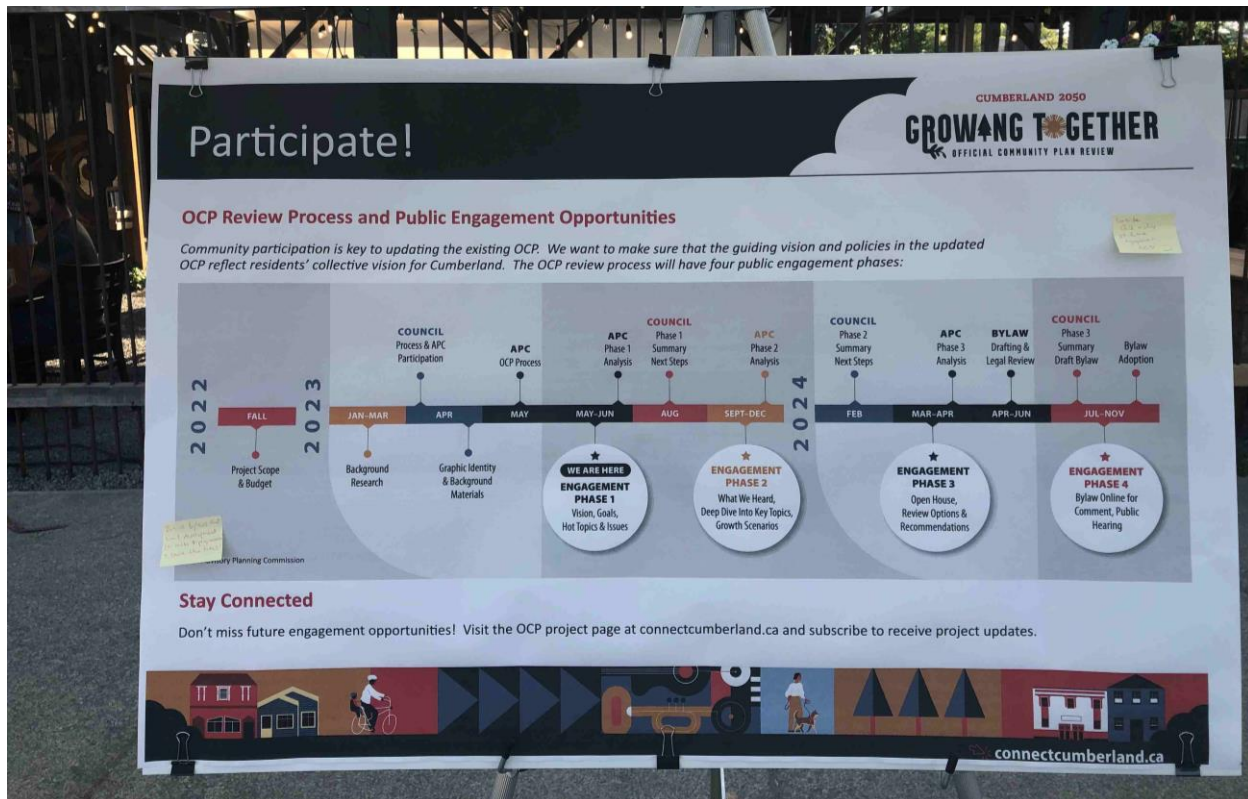
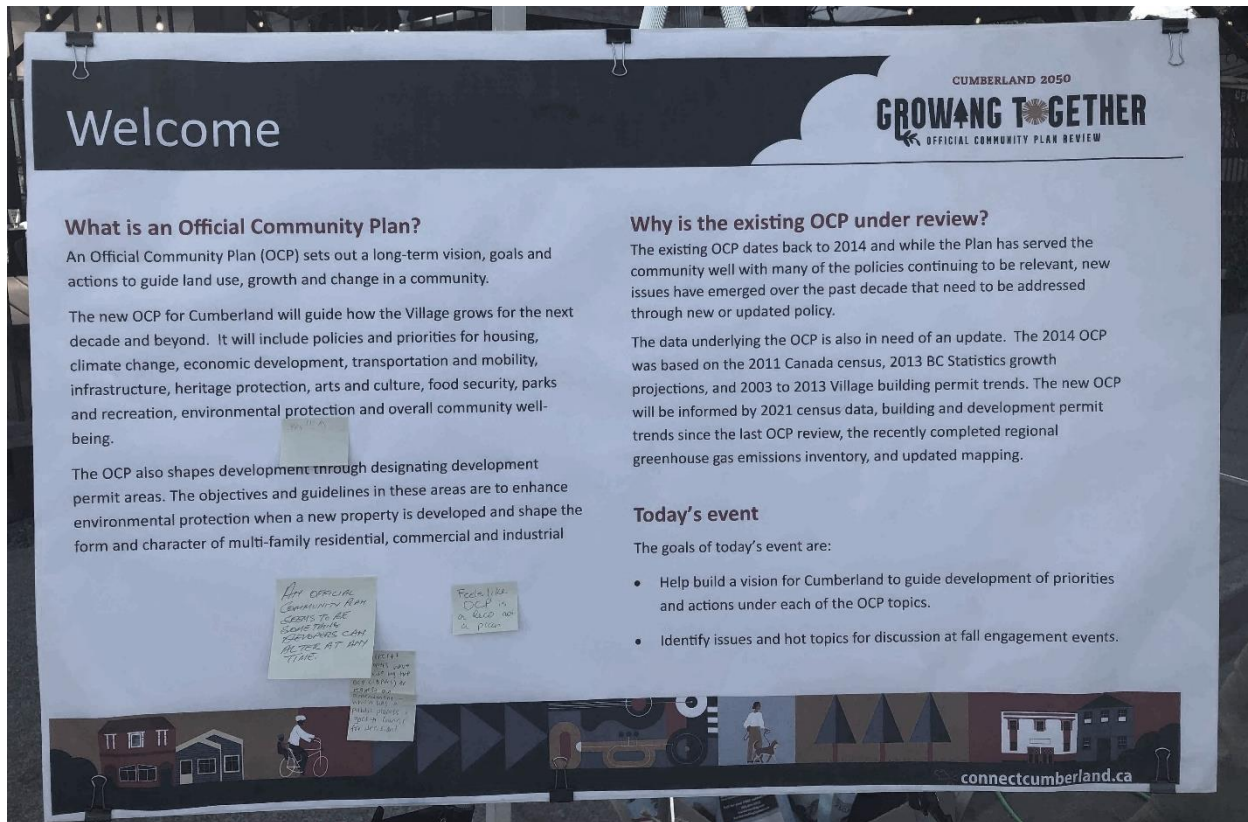
	Comment	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
	Recreation, Arts and Culture	
1	Balancing our recreation interests with arts & culture	1
2	Love the rec center accessibility. Tot gym is great	
3	Either a new rec centre or a big renovation on our existing one. Outdoor pool at the park	1
4	New fitness centre/community centre built in seniors (cultural) centre as community grows	1
5	New recreation centre with multi-purpose & meeting spaces	1
	Inclusion, Equity and Accessibility	
6	Arts & Culture, accessibility inclusion, social justice, equity	1
7	Accessible social spaces	
8	Keep up the great opportunity for community connection	
	Seniors Housing / Ageing in Place	
9	Get seniors housing built in Coal Valley	2
10	Super disappointed in the “aging” of ageing in place. Paint chips into storm drain	
	Outdoor Public Amenities	
11	Public space & benches on walking routes	
12	Climbing boulder(s) in park(s) of Cumberland please	
13	Need shaded picnic tables in a main square for easy connection in summer	
14	Add bike parking	
15	Outdoor gyms for adults like monkey bars and bouldering rocks outdoors	
16	Invest in outdoor health and wellness infrastructure and spaces. Make greenways. Affordable rentals for all ages [under Built Environment]	1
17	Shade trees in public space. Solar parasols.	
18	A dog and/or kid play café in the back parking lot	
19	Playground and park in newer development (above Kendal)	5
20	Enforced on leash nature spaces. Safe spaces for all dogs, not just “friendly” dogs	3
21	Off leash dog areas in the wild areas around the Village	
	Car Free Downtown	
22	Car free on Dunsmuir downtown	3
23	Pedestrian only on Dunsmuir	
24	Close Third outside CBC to cars!	1
25	Platzle area to stop traffic. Example: Kimberley, BC	
	Traffic/Street Calming	
26	Calm the streets, create spaces for slow, for gathering, for sitting	2
27	Less cars, trucks and motorcycles. Less noise pollution!	
28	Safe – traffic calming around Village Park	
	Alternative Transportation Network	
29	E-bike network (not as crazy as the bike trails)	

	Comment	No. of sticky dots placed in agreement
30	Better integration with Courtenay with better bus service & off road bike path between municipalities	5
31	Prioritize sidewalks in all old Cumberland over time on at least one side of street	
32	Bike path to Courtenay	
33	We need a paved ring road in the lower forest zones! Good for mountain bikers and everyone young and old (walkers, medi-chairs, strollers, scooters, road bikes, etc.)	
	Medical and Health and Wellness Services	
34	No more waiting – we need doctors in Cumberland	
35	More indoor health & wellness spaces needed, clinics, counselling offices etc. so that we can have more of these services in town	
	Affordability	
36	Address poverty by increasing affordability so less money held up in rent/mortgage payments. Frees up money for well-being.	
R16	Invest in outdoor health and wellness infrastructure and spaces. Make greenways. Affordable rentals for all ages.	1

	Comments under Community Well-Being moved to other sections:	Section
	Development Application Process	
	Hire more staff or streamline review and approval of subdivision, development permits, etc.	Built Environment
	Urban Agriculture / Food Choices	
	Community gardens, seed stake sheds, seed drying sheds, composting toilets	Economy
	Trees	
	Trees	Natural Environment

Comments contributed under the section titled “Other” were related to Community-Well Being and are included above.

Appendix 3: Photo Record of Poster Boards



Community Statistics

CUMBERLAND 2050

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Cumberland 2016 to 2021

Below are a few key statistics about Cumberland and its residents. The numbers show how the community has changed between the last two censuses. The changes are important to consider in discussions of how Cumberland should grow and adapt.

	2016	2021	Change
Population	3,770	4,445	+18.5%
Median Age	37.9	39.2	+1.3 years
Age groups with largest share of population	Under 14 (18.4%) 35-44 (16.6%) Over 65 (14.8%)	Under 14 (20%) 35-44 (20%) Over 65 (15.2%)	+1.4% +3.4% +0.4%
Average household size	2.4 people	2.4 people	0
Median after-tax household income	\$65,203 (in 2015)	\$75,500 (in 2020)	Not adjusted to account for inflation
Unemployment rate	7.5%	8.2%	+0.7%
Average home sales price	\$399,006	\$677,000	Not adjusted to account for inflation
Renter Households	26.5%	28%	+1.5%
Renters spending more than 30% of household income on shelter costs	10.1%	29.1%	+20%
Rental vacancy rate	1.4%	0.7%	-0.7%

	2016	2021	Change
Top employment sectors	Health Care and Social Assistance (20.6%) Retail trade (11.8%) Construction (10.8%)	Health Care and Social Assistance (17.6%) Professional, scientific, technical services (9.8%) Retail trade (7.6%)	Rise in professional service industry as one of top three employment sectors
Places of work			
Work from home	7%	17.2%	+10.2%
Work in Cumberland	16.9%	19.3%	+2.4%
Work elsewhere in Comox Valley	69%	67.7%	-2.7%
Work elsewhere in Province	13.7%	11.3%	-2.4%
Work outside of Province	0.7%	2%	+1.3%
Main mode of commuting			
Motor vehicle	85.2%	85.5%	+0.3%
Public transit	1.7%	1.1%	-0.6%
Walk	7.4%	4.5%	-2.9%
Bicycle	2.5%	3.4%	+0.9%
Other mode	2.8%	5.3%	+2.5%

The above are just a few of the changes Cumberland has been experiencing over the past decade.

On the following three poster boards, organized by OCP topic area, share what is on your mind and you would like to see explored at public engagement events in the fall.



Favourite Places

CUMBERLAND 2050

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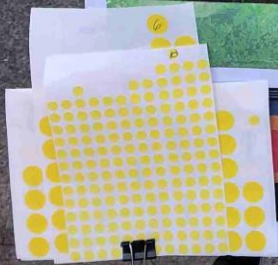
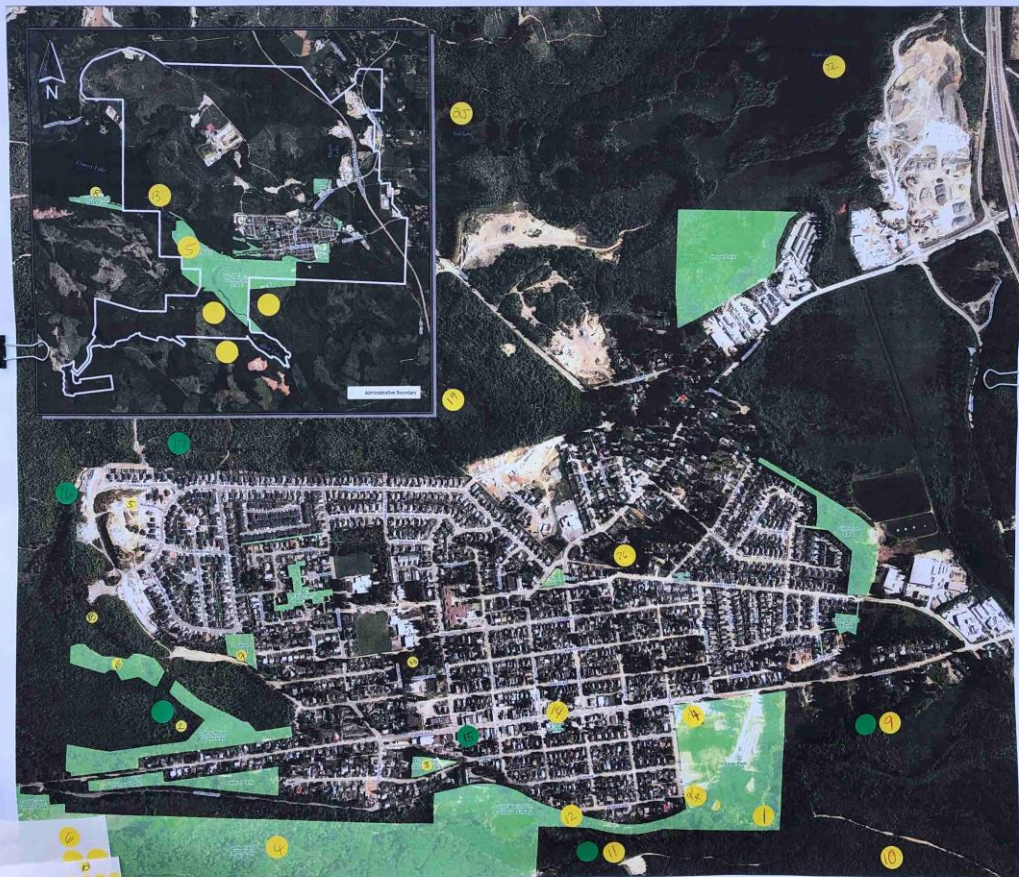
Why are favourite places so important?

Favourite places give life and spirit to a community. They are where we go to recharge, where we like to hang out, meet new people or connect with family and friends. Favourite places make us feel at home in a community.

Understanding the favourite places in the Village and the stories behind them, tells us what residents value and would like to see retained or amplified as the community grows.

Share about your favourite place

1. Find your favourite place on the map.
2. If it doesn't already have a number on it, mark it with a sticky dot with the next free number (see next board)
3. If the place already has a number, find it on the list on the next board.
4. On a sticky note, write what you like and value about the place and put it next to the number.
5. To agree with what someone else has written, please a sticky dot next to it.



Next Steps

CUMBERLAND 2050
GROWING TOGETHER
OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN REVIEW

What's ahead:

- Today's poster boards posted at connectcumberland.ca
- Online favourite places map and discussion forum collect further resident input at connectcumberland.ca
- Review of public input received with Village's Advisory Planning Commission.
- Drafting of the community vision.
- Identification of hot topics for discussion at the fall engagement events.
- Presentation of an engagement summary report to Council in late summer/early fall.
- Fall engagement events to share public input received, identify further community statistics and trends, and explore OCP topics in depth.

We look forward to seeing you at our fall events!


STAY INFORMED
Subscribe for project updates
Your email address: _____
SUBSCRIBE

Don't miss out!

Visit connectcumberland.ca
and sign up to receive updates
and notifications of upcoming
engagement events.



connectcumberland.ca

What Do You Love About Cumberland?

Save the old growth

the forests

yeah!

Village Parks

MAIN ST. ACTIVITY - HERITAGE - FUN (DUNSMUIR) PEOPLE

Village food! community & people & ecosystem

community events + heart

The PEOPLE!

more bikes!

trees

local

skis

Forests

the ARTS

Mushrooms

mt biking

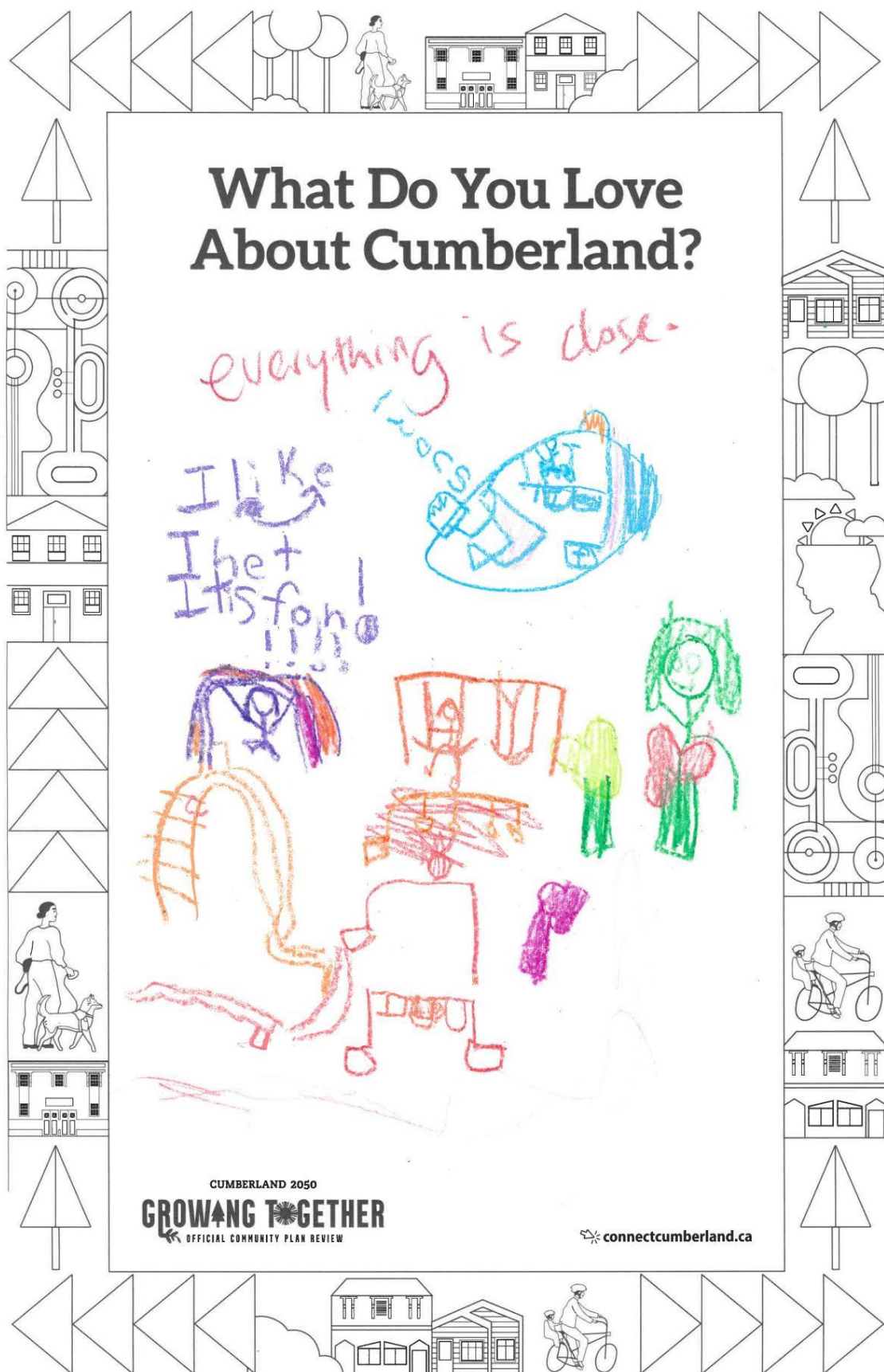
community

Restaurants

Cumberland Trail Network

Walkability

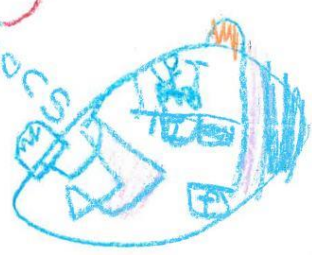
connectcumberland.ca



What Do You Love About Cumberland?

everything is close.

I like
I bet
It is fun!



CUMBERLAND 2050
GROWING TOGETHER
OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN REVIEW

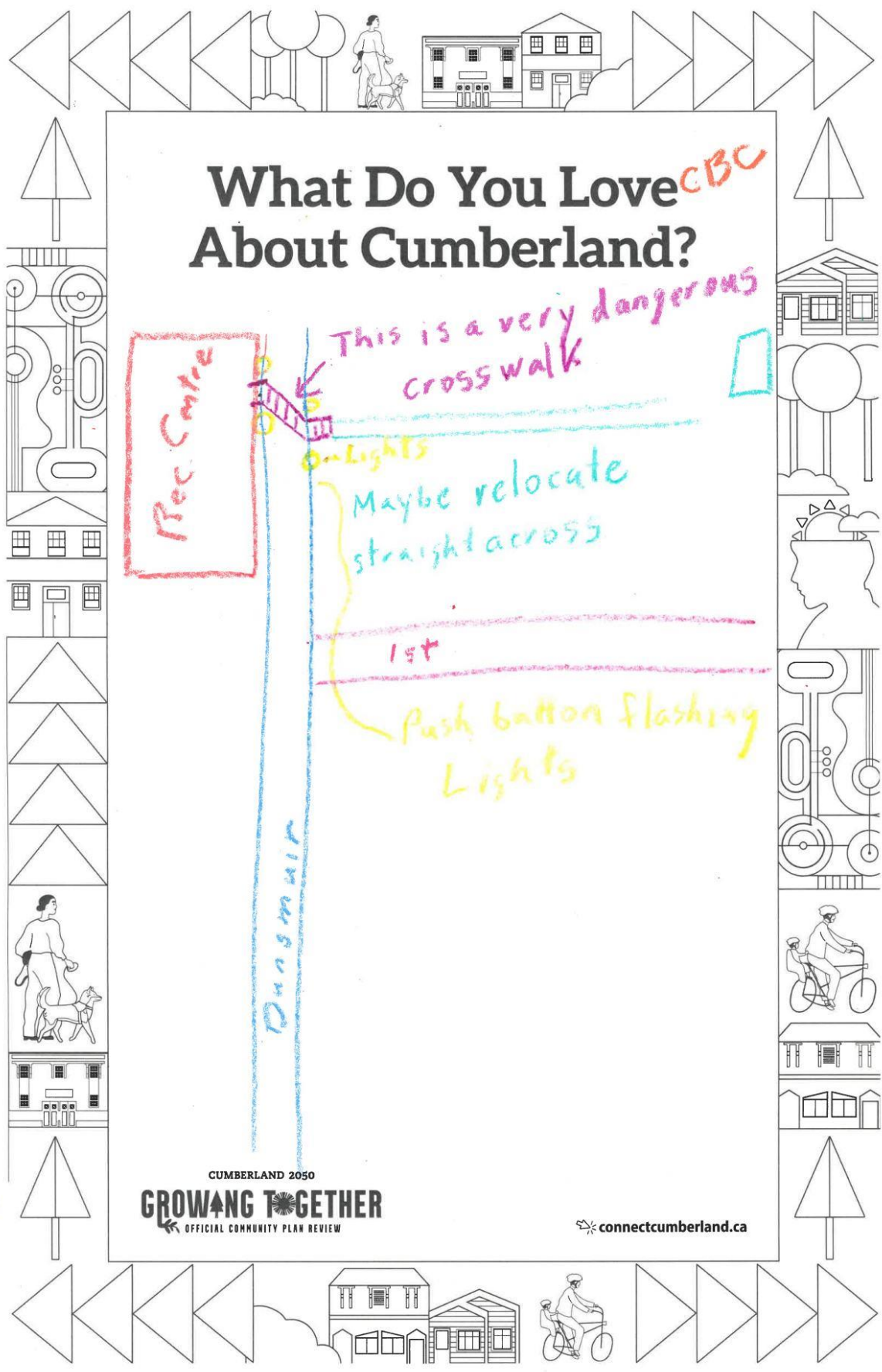
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What Do You Love About Cumberland?

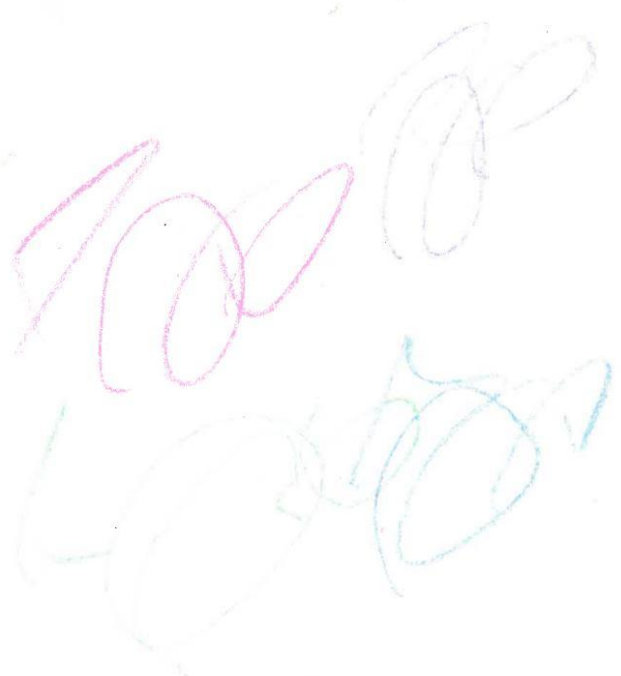
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What Do You Love About Cumberland?



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 connectcumberland.ca

Appendix 5: Responses to On-line tools as at July 11, 2023

1. Vision for Cumberland

Similar themes are highlighted in the same colour. The themes and colour codes are in the table below the contributions.

My vision for Cumberland: A community that looks out for one another, continues to protect our **natural assets**, and expands **inclusivity** to welcome all. Our OCP needs to put **climate change adaptation** at the front. New developments are heat islands because climate change was not considered (all mature trees cut down for example).

The new welcome posts are amazing and help remind residents and visitors that we are on K'omoks land. I would really like to see us **working deeply with the K'omoks First Nation**. For example, when making the new park trail name..the kids competition was cute but how about letting the K'omoks members decide on names for our new trails and streets? Other examples: Work with them in the design and delivery of the new child care facility. An Indigenous garden on Dunsmuir. How are developers required to work with them when designing new developments? How are you working with them in the OCP process? And here's an opportunity to really be a leader and consider what role the village could play in encouraging this type of reciprocity: <https://www.reciprocitytrusts.ca/>

My vision is that Cumberland has retained it's small village feel even though densification has happened in parts of the Village. The **car is no longer the main focus of transportation** and that **bicycles have learned to share** space with people on foot. Also that the Village looks at **climate change** when deciding subdivisions and construction of buildings. That there are not four story buildings of residences that do not have ability to cool and not just with a little window and door to open but that heat pumps are required. Scattered throughout the Village would be **benches to encourage people to walk, visit and contemplate**. **Peace Park would have its own Welcoming Totems**. There would be many **small parks** in each area and not just counting on the parks that exist in 2023. The **heritage** of the Village would be **celebrated** and not denigrated. **Music and art** would **flourish**.

I would hope that the **streets are fixed** by then, as I have limited mobility and walk with a walker and I would love to see an **indoor swimming pool with a hot tub and sauna** in the CRI.

Many people in the village would not appreciate their streets being named by a group other than our elected council. The site linked to in your comment speaks about citizens of our village as 'colonizers' - this language is divisive and non-inclusive. It has no place in Cumberland. **Working with First Nations is important** but the ideas you have presented are not appropriate.

Cumberland is **a walkable community**. Every **street has sidewalks**. **Benches** for sitting/rest exist on major/direct pedestrian routes. **Bike lanes and bike routes** to Royston; Courtenay

and Comox. Most buildings have a some a variety solar power panels; as well as bus shelters; street lights; etc. Other solar power opportunities are explored. All power lines are below grade. Sidewalks/paved trails are maintained. Affordable housing is defined without using the word: "more"! Property tax rate for affordable housing is reduced/subsidized by 'regular' property tax payers; as well as Provincial funding sources. Recreation focuses on outdoor activities/facilities. These are some initial/quick thoughts - more to come.

Being able to walk and bike easily to the village, trails, my work in Courtenay, and my home are all important to me. I want to see our village aspire to collaborate with one another and work on supporting everyone to be comfortable and well cared for, regardless of income, age, gender, race, etc. Having services embedded in our village (dentistry, primary health care, a grocery store with healthy options, for example) are ways for people to live well and stay within their community for most major needs. I hope that we will be able to expand access to these services and ensure their sustainability for many years to come. As well, a multi-use path that is off the highway to connect to Courtenay/Comox would be wonderful. I ride from Cumberland to Courtenay 4 times per week for work and it is always a bit terrifying to ride down the connector/Cumberland road. I think having a safe way to get into town would mean more people choosing active transport.

Love your points! Bike friendly connector is critical! Love your points! Safe bike infrastructure along the connector is a high priority!

We see a community that is walkable and has a thriving arts scene. Community gardens flourish and population growth has not outpaced public services. Having safe bike routes out of Cumberland and through Courtney/Comox is very important for climate change and healthy communities. Also - having a village friendly to small business. This will provide local jobs and expand tax revenue. Competition will make the existing businesses better. Finally - having a village council that uses tax dollars frugally. For the past few years homeowner property taxes have increased far more than wage growth. This is not sustainable in a rising interest rate environment.

I share the same vision with Cumberland being a walking and bike friendly place, where these modes of transportation are encouraged supported. I'm not sure if this is the right venue, but having a bike friendly connector is also something that's important to me. I think it's important to be mindful of the current financial situation. Canadians are in more debt and inflation with rising interest rates has made things tight for many local families (regardless of where in Cumberland they live). I would love to see a Cumberland that balances this with the desires of the community. In addition, I think it's important to remember what builds community, and I would love to hear plans centered around building an inclusive community. This does not have to include expensive infrastructure, but the support of small local business, music/ outdoor events, family friendly events, and the overall encouragement of building a community while bringing people together. Supporting the mental and physical health of those in this community should not be forgotten.

Invest more in the health of citizens by investing more in **recreation** and **trails**. Doing this will create healthy and vibrant communities that support healthy economies.

Summary of the main themes expressed in the above contributions:

	Working closely with First Nations
	An inclusive and equitable community
	Sense of community and belonging
	Thriving arts and music community
	Pedestrian and bike-friendly
	Protection of the natural environment
	Parks, greenspace and amenities (benches)
	Action on climate change
	Improved indoor and outdoor recreation
	Infrastructure improvements
	More services in the community (health, grocery store, etc.)
	Support of small businesses and a healthy local economy
	Affordable housing
	Heritage celebrated
	Fiscally responsible

2. Favourite Places

Input under this online tool is organized by topic area.

Cumberland Community Forest and Adjacent Mosaic Lands

- Trail Entrance - Possibilities
- China Creek Trail. A beautiful cool and shady trail to escape the heat, makes an excellent running loop when linked with the Colliery Trail.
- Space Nugget [trail]. The forest here is so pretty.
- Iron Curtain [trail] – one of my favourite trails for running
- Thursday's child. Great for beginner bikers and dog walkers.
- The Community Forest. So amazing!
- Potholes!
- Tunnel Canary [trail]
- Top of Little Nikkei. Great views, close to town. Accessible trails.
- The eastern block are excellent trails for walking dogs, trail running, & biking
- The Eastern Bloc is my special space and the pin marks where I start to feel relaxed and happy about getting to go play in the woods.
- Children's Forest, off Trent River Main: The big trees, boardwalk and wetland in this area are beautiful.

Village Parks, Greenways and Greenspaces

- Village square park. Beautiful green space
- Village Square. Great gathering space in the heart of Cumberland.
- Off Comox Lake Road: The Wellington Colliery Trail is an old railroad bed and a perfect place for a cool shady walk on a hot summers day . It's surrounded by wetland and you'll see a variety of wildlife include many waterfowl, beavers, martins, muskrats and lots of native plants!
- I love the Number Six Mine park. A beautiful mature park, playground, meadow and his historical understandings
- Cumberland disc golf course
- Disc Golf Course
- Comox Lake and beach. Music in the park and space to spend time on hot summer days.
- Totem poles at the Peace Park. Welcomes everyone to Cumberland.
- Allen Lake - This is where I watched the Western Toad tadpoles transform into tiny toadlets leading up to their migration last year 2022, and this year 2023. I also see many garter snakes, dragonflies and unique wildflowers up at the lake too. Bottom of That Dam Trail.

Other Greenspaces/Recreation Areas

- Coal Beach/Whyte's Bay
- Bevan Road - Local residents love these trails around the wetland & use them multiple times daily. An integral wildlife corridor between the mountains and ocean that I would like to see preserved.
- The school forest is pretty incredible
- Comox Lake climbing area - These trails offer shady respite in the summer. The rock craggs, enormous boulders, & waterfalls are unique. We always take visitors to this place.

Urban Neighbourhoods

- Beaumont Crescent - A place to play in my neighbourhood, there are no cars at the end of the dead end road
- Beaumont Crescent - Views of the ocean, Texada Island, and the Coast Mountains. I'd love to see this made into a park so Cumberlanders can continue to enjoy it
- Kendal Avenue - Ridge line trail - beautiful hiking spot and great views close to home
- Lindale Avenue - Cumberland's best sunset spot and view of the coastal mountain range. Would love to see this preserved as a park with a watch tower.

Local Businesses

- Village Bakery Best rye bread and almond croissants.
- Waverley Forever!

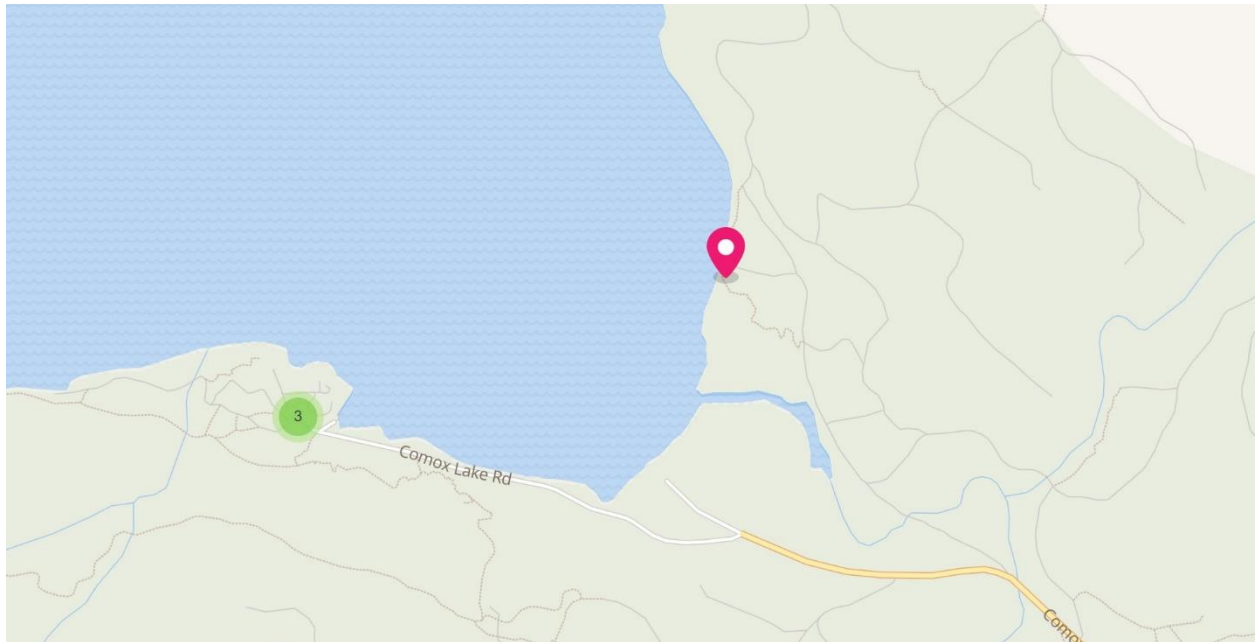
- I love the new gravity mountain bikes shop and the food trucks on this property. I just tried the Tameet food truck last night for the first time and it was delicious!

Recreation Facilities

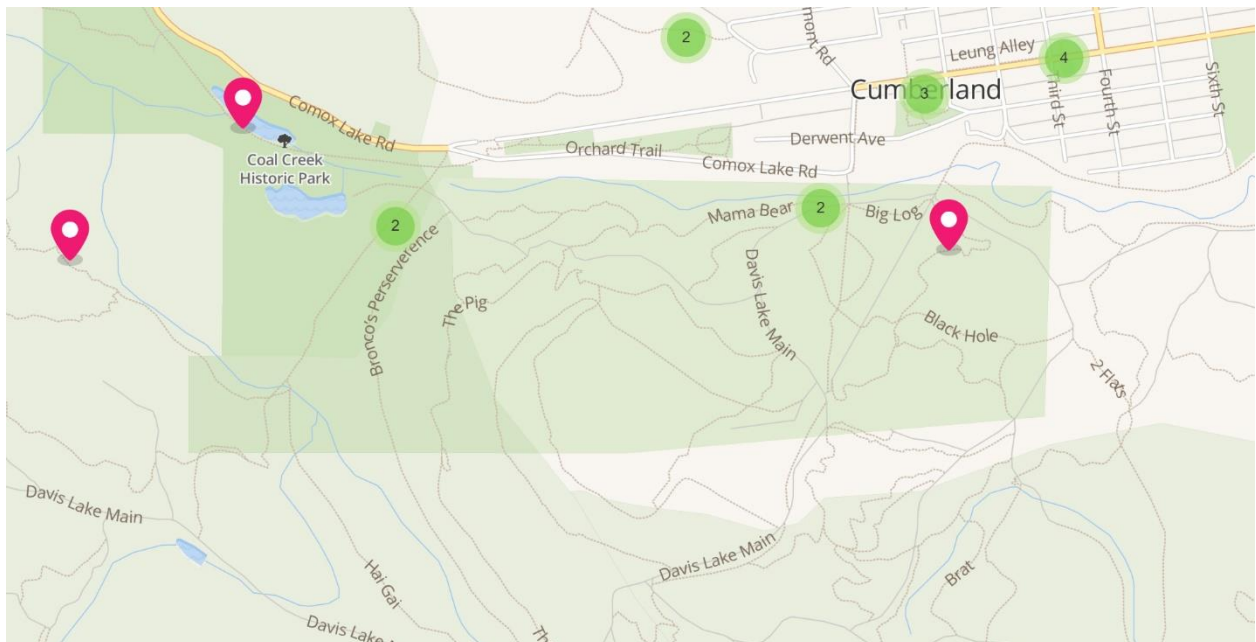
- Cumberland recreation centre. Amazing community resource
- Comox lake crags rock climbing and hiking trails

Favourite Place Maps

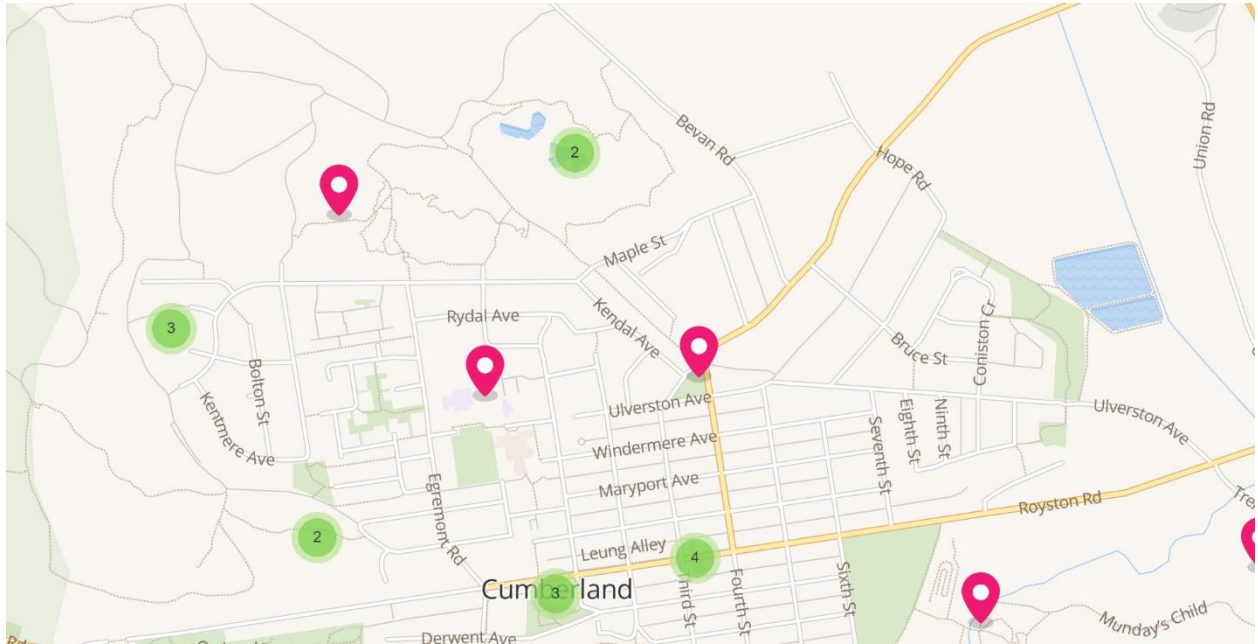
Comox Lake area



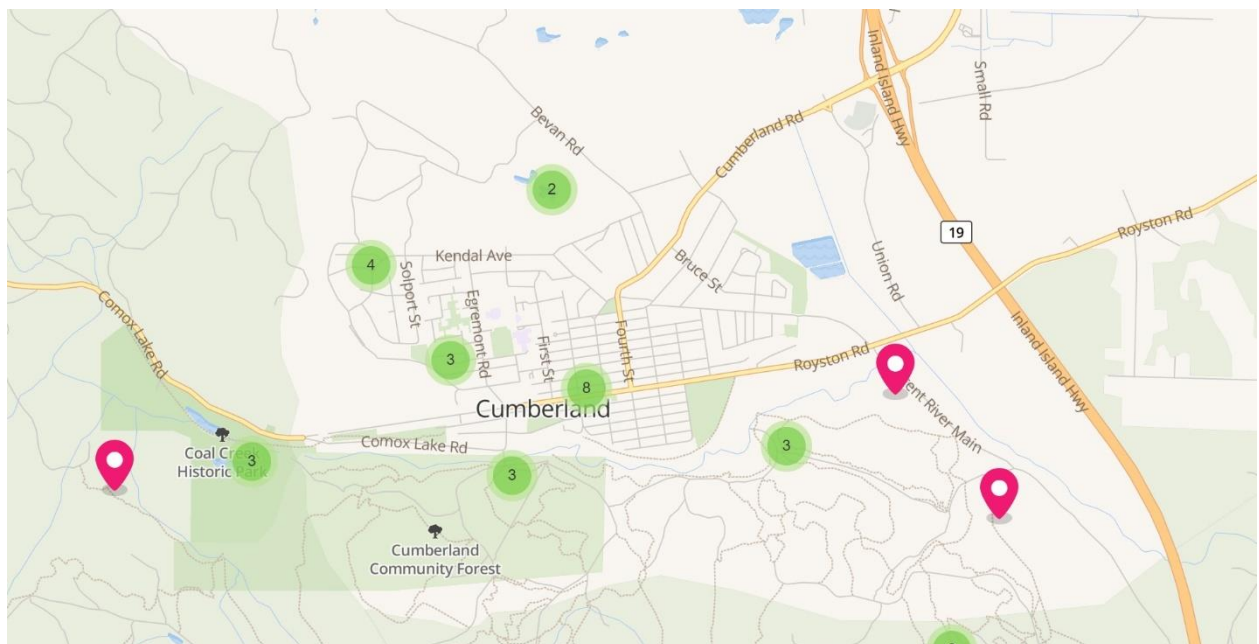
Cumberland Community Forest and Mosaic Lands



Developed area of Village



Overview Map



3. What's on Your Mind (topics for further discussion)

Built Environment

Community gardens

- Plant edible perennial plants like herbs in street beds. Create a community garden with allocations for those without yards and a free community garden for those in need.
- Community gardens for food security - community Gardens should be mandated with any multi-family build. Also any empty lots the Village has should be converted as such.

Responsible Growth

- Important that the village ensures that future residential growth does not outpace available services.

Dunsmuir Street facades

- Village should ensure consistent building facade theme for new builds on Dunsmuir. It has charm but it is being lost with some new builds.

Tax incentives for small businesses

- Recommend the Village provide tax incentives for small businesses for their first 3 years. Will help expand the tax base beyond citizens.

Economy

Support for Small Businesses

- Recommend the Village provide tax incentives for small businesses for their first 3 years. Will help expand the tax base beyond citizens.
- Downtown businesses provide many benefits. I believe that if we did a financial analysis, we would find that the downtown commercial/residential buildings bring in the greatest tax revenue per acre of any property in Cumberland. They also often provide a diversity of housing (upstairs), employ local people, use other local services etc. I believe the Village should find more ways to support and expand this part of our community (while maintaining good urban form).

Natural Environment

Biking Network to Reduce GHG

- An efficient and very safe biking network throughout the Comox Valley will incentivize fitness and reduce GHG emissions.

Community Well-Being

Property Taxes Going Exponential

- Property taxes are rising far faster than homeowner's incomes. Financial prudence by the village will help everyone including renters.