

Oaklands Rise News

What's been happening? And, what's next?
Meetings: Mayor - Land Use Committee (CALUC) - City Staff
Inclusion and Community Development Workshop

What you said

Over 50% responded to our invitation to share views! Those who use our sidewalk-free streets want them to be a shared, people-first space. Research shows that when people “own” the street and vehicles (with local purpose) are “guests”, the risk of harm is dramatically reduced. Still, we know some are unsure and may not feel comfortable speaking up. Please help make the connections so concerns can be discussed and design can be well informed.

Highlights

- ✓ 100% want the sidewalk-free streets treated as space for people shared with local cars as “guests” (data updated Nov. 13, 2018).
- ✓ 96% explained *why* they're on the streets—89% are exercising. Heading to shops, socialising, enjoying the area and dog-walking (37%) are popular choices. Going to work ranks #7 at 56%.
- ✓ 87% are walking the streets; 9% using assistive devices report being at ease and attentive.
- ✓ 50% cycle these streets and 13% push a stroller. There is a lone skateboard/scooter fan!
- ✓ 81% are “attentive” and 67% at ease on the streets. 3 responses indicate “fearful”, with only 1 in relation to the relevant streets. Still, some are unsure. Please help reach out...how can we help?
- ✓ 9% feel sidewalks are safer despite risk of slips and falls stating doubt that drivers will cooperate.
- ✓ 87% agree to drive at 5 - 15 kph when people are seen, 41% fine with 20 kph and 65% are willing to sign a petition for low speeds. NO ONE has opposed slower speeds on our residential streets—that's great news, but no surprise!

1

“LIKE” “TWEET” “TALK”

Be heard &
spread the word!
Help grow support

2

WANT TO LEARN MORE

John O holds the
research collection.
Contact for access

3

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Get informed—and help
create the talking
points for City Council.

Oaklands Rise Woonerf (VÖN-ehrf)

Your Planning Group continues to seek collaboration with City staff as directed by Council in 2017 and 2018. It is a slog with 2 steps forward, 1 back.

YOUR VISIBLE SUPPORT IS NEEDED

Presentation to City Council is coming—likely dates TBD.

9 offered to speak at City Council if avail: get ready, we'll help

If you would like to help prepare for City Council, email:
oaklandsrise@gmail.com

34 will fill a seat to show support: YES!

Please: consider
adding your voice!

30 seconds of support
is as good—or better—
than 5 mins of details!

Say **VÖN-ehrf** and
spread the word!

- ☑ 81% want to preserve/enhance the area; 70% focus on community wellness and feel tax money is better spent supporting the Woonerf than engineering a more typical urban street scape. 89% support introduction of street art elements with 30% sharing ideas. 3 respondents are opposed.
- ☑ 59% will maintain the Woonerf and 67% pitching in through a variety of volunteer activities. 24% support our goals, but cannot volunteer at this time. Thanks for the weeding, litter control and plants dropped off over the last many weeks. How can you get involved? Let's talk—there's a lot to do!

When a drawing is just a sketch ...

De-coupling the Woonerf from the single lot subdivision is needed, meanwhile:

- ☑ The Planning Group was asked to provide drawings for the frontage at 2695 Capital Heights. We've given sketches for that and also Kings Rd. (Mt. Stephen Ave to Cedar Hill Rd.) with clarification that the ideas are representative to open minds. YOUR input is needed as part of a community process.
- ☑ A compilation of text AND representative images can be viewed at: <https://is.gd/ruIEWC>
- ☑ Some ideas will fit, others not. We seek to illustrate that there are options other than typical urban cement..and that a “light” implementation need not require a lot of expensive, invasive engineering.

Kitchen Table Talk with the Mayor

22 neighbours gathered at Elin's place to discuss what we like, don't like, to ask questions and show support for the Woonerf. The discussion was frank and wide-ranging. Mayor Helps confirmed her strong support for the Woonerf. She expressed interest in meeting post election.

Land Use Committee (CALUC) Meeting

Thanks to those able to attend the CALUC to show support for the Woonerf. OCA Parks Committee Chair Melissa Lim is developing a **program of parks/greenway events** (!) and a renewed vision for Oaklands green spaces. Committee members/volunteers are welcome! Contact Melissa at parks@oaklandsca.com.

Meetings with City Staff - a Meeting with YOU

Despite worldwide experience of the Woonerf concept created by engineers, now seen in Halifax, Winnipeg, Montreal, Toronto, North Capilano and 475+ US cities, resistance from planners continues. A **community discussion is needed, before or after the next presentation to Council. Get involved!**

Head, hands, heart ...

Members of the Oaklands Community Association's email list received an invitation to a workshop with Jim Diers, a civic change agent whose work is known internationally. Thanks to the South Island Education Committee and the South Island Community Council for hosting this affirming day!

On arrival, it seemed that only three neighbours had registered. Surprise! The “find your neighbourhood” ice-breaker created a table *full* of Oaklands residents interested to learn about the Woonerf. We have five new members of the 115 member Oaklands Rise list and new support from other Victoria groups!

Oaklands Rise Woonerf fits well with best practices in community building. One takeaway from the workshop was that everyone of us has something to give be that a skill (horticulture, social media, carpentry, baking) knowledge (project experience, resources to share, connections) or heart (appreciation, energy, friendly waves and neighbourly visits). **Thanks for your part—from hands, head and heart!**

Your Core Planning group is Madeline B, Rob T, Pat P, Ed P, John O, Robin D, Russ S at oaklandsrise@gmail.com