



RDOS

Electoral Area "A"

OCP Update

PLANNING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER

January 2021

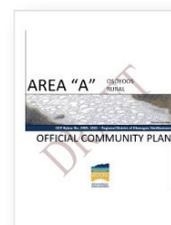
OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE - PROJECT SUMMARY

In November of 2019, the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) launched a review and update of the Electoral Area "A" Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaw. This marked the first time since 2002-04 that the OCP Bylaw has been reviewed. As the project draws to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to present some of the outcomes, provide an overview of the consultation that was undertaken, and provide a final opportunity for residents to submit feedback on their new Official Community Plan.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

Since launching the project, the Regional District has completed the following public outreach:

- conducting of two separate resident surveys;
- convening of an open house at the Sonora Centre (Sept. 2020);
- attendance at the Osoyoos Market on Main and Growers Supply Conference;
- distribution of a series of newsletters and project postcards to all residents;
- posting draft materials for public review & comment at www.rdos.bc.ca;
- meeting with community groups (e.g., Anarchist Mountain Community Association);
- engaging with the Electoral Area "A" Area Planning Commission (APC);
- discussions with Osoyoos Indian Band; and
- seeking agency input (e.g., Agricultural Land Commission, Town of Osoyoos, Okanagan Basin Water Board, Interior Health, etc.).



What's an Official Community Plan (OCP)?

An Official Community Plan (OCP) is a planning document that provides policies on a broad range of topics including land-use, transportation, housing, parks and infrastructure.

OCPs help provide a blueprint and map for a community's future. They are created to guide decisions on planning and land use management by establishing a long-term vision, supporting goals, objectives, and policies to achieve them.



WHAT’S CHANGED?

As we advised in our November (2020) Newsletter, few of the proposed changes to the Electoral Area “A” Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaw are considered to be significant. This is largely a reflection of OCPs being “living documents” that are not meant to remain static and untouched over their anticipated 15- to 20-year lifespan.

Since it was adopted in 2004, the current Electoral Area “A” OCP has been the subject of over 40 amendments, some of which relate to significant policy changes including introduction of Watercourse Development Permit (WDP) Areas in 2006; adding a Climate Change & Greenhouse Gas Reductions section in 2010 to comply with Provincial legislation; incorporating the recommendations of the Agricultural Area Plan (AAP) in 2014; a review of Environmentally Sensitive Development Permit (ESDP) Areas in 2017; and updating of accessory dwelling unit policies in 2020.

Changes resulting from the current OCP Review include:

- Establishing growth area boundaries around the Willow Beach and Anarchist Mountain communities to ensure compliance with the requirements of the South Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) Bylaw.
- Updated growth management projections for the Electoral Area based on the most recent Census data.
- A new “Local Area Policies” section for Anarchist Mountain, Osoyoos Lake (north & south), and Kilpoola communities has been introduced into the Plan.
- Climate action goals have been updated to reflect the *Climate Change Accountability Act*.
- Additional fire hazard management policies have been added.

In order to assist residents in understanding the full scope of the changes being proposed to the OCP, Comparison Tables showing the various sections of the current vs proposed OCP Bylaws have recently been added to the project website (www.rdos.bc.ca - see below for specific page location). Copies of the draft map schedules to the bylaw are also available for viewing on the same webpage.

NOTE: the Regional District is currently completing a separate review ESDP Areas independently from the Electoral Area “A” OCP Bylaw Review. The reason for this is ESDPs are a regional issue and apply to multiple Electoral Areas. Similarly, a proposed Wildfire Development Permit Area is being prepared independently of the OCP Review as it may also be applied regionally. Information on these projects is available on the Regional District’s website under “Strategic Planning Projects” (see below for specific page location).



PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

A final electronic meeting to provide an overview of the new OCP Bylaw and receive feedback from residents will be held on:

Date: Wednesday February 24, 2021

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: <https://rdos.webex.com>
Meeting number: 146 015 7527
Meeting password: RD@S

Additional information on how to participate in this meeting via Webex is available on the Regional District’s website: www.rdos.bc.ca (see below for specific page location).

Feedback should be provided to the Regional District by **March 3, 2021** in one of the following ways:

- emailed to planning@rdos.bc.ca;
- faxed to 250-492-0063; or
- mailed to the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen, 101 Martin Street, Penticton, BC, V2A-5J9.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Visit our project webpage at www.rdos.bc.ca ([Property & Development](#) > [Planning, Zoning & Subdivision](#) > [Strategic Planning Projects](#) > [Electoral Area “A” OCP Bylaw Review](#))