

From: TRISH FAUROT [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, February 7, 2026 3:13 PM
To: SSInfo
Cc: Laura Patrick; Timothy Peterson; Jamie Harris; Executive Admin;
Islands2050; HMA Minister
Subject: 5 legitimate reasons stop the proposed OCP Review

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To all concerned,
I am sending yet another article regarding the proposed amendments to our Official Community Plan:

“A wave of misinformation and misrepresentation colours the public discussion of changes to our Official Community Plan (OCP). One aggressively promoted argument, detached from reality, claims that our current OCP is outdated, and no longer fit for purpose because it obstructs the development of affordable housing. OCP critics want increases in density for housing without restrictions on rental or purchase costs. We’ve been told that broad based community engagement has, and is, taking place so that all voices will be heard. So far, the evidence does not support this. False, misleading or distorted information, especially regarding the critical issue of affordable housing, is everywhere. Make sure you can tell the difference between true and false.

Fact or Fiction?

We are told: “Our OCP’s policies must be changed to allow for affordable housing.”

BUT THE TRUTH IS: Our current OCP already allows for affordable housing. (The main hurdle is funding, not zoning.)

We are told: “Clustered housing will provide affordable work-force housing and is good for the environment.”

BUT THE TRUTH IS: Our OCP already allows for clustered housing on properties zoned for several dwellings. (Affordability must be legally guaranteed when density is raised.)

We are told: “The public is being properly consulted about why and how to change our OCP.”

BUT THE TRUTH IS: Public consultation has been limited to random interviews and an on-line survey biased towards development. More public consultation is expected in March.

We are told: “Rezoning for development of more free-market, (private-sector) housing will provide more affordable housing.”

BUT THE TRUTH IS: High land and building costs mean that new private sector housing will not be truly affordable to those who need it most.

We are told: “Those who defend the preserve and protect mandate of the Trust are opposed to developing “attainable” housing.”

BUT THE TRUTH IS: We all want more affordable housing. It can be provided, while still protecting fragile ecosystems, when upzoning is done only when affordability is legally guaranteed. “

A current example of just how true these 5 TRUTHS are is the following article from IWAV, a local non profit who has already developed many units of affordable housing as well as running other community services to help struggling citizens of our island. Why not take whatever money is being wasted on this unnecessary review and give it to this group who can then move forward to the conclusion of this vital property acquisition?

"In just one week, the IWAV will complete the purchase of 210 Norton Road — Help us with the last \$100,000 to wrap up this campaign!

What has carried this project forward is the remarkable way our community has shown up. We are well on the way to our goal, thanks to historic leadership donations from the Salt Spring Island Foundation, the Salt Spring Community Housing & Land Trust, and Country Grocer, alongside gifts from more than 100 individual Salt Spring donors and numerous foundations and funds.

Support from our community has come in many forms. Our first-ever online auction raised over \$4,500 for Norton Road, made possible by the generosity of local artists, businesses, and community members who donated artwork, services, antiques, and beautiful treasures. During Caroling for Change, IWAV staff sang outside Country Grocer, with community members stopping to listen, connect, and donate toward the project. Together, these moments reflect the creativity, care, and shared commitment that have carried this campaign forward and what Salt Spring is choosing to invest in: lasting safety, affordable housing, and care that is rooted right here at home.

If you have already donated, THANK YOU!

Your generosity has brought us to this critical moment. If you are able to give, or to give again, this final week matters. Every contribution helps ensure we can move forward with confidence. Thank you for standing with us and helping us bring more affordable housing to the Islanders who need it most."

Please! Listen to the voices of the community you represent and cancel the OCP review.

Sincerely,
Patricia Faurot,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]