



File No.: 6400 (Gabriola Ecological Protection Zone Project)

DATE OF MEETING: July 20, 2023

TO: Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee

FROM: Stephen Baugh, Planner 2
Northern Team

COPY: Renée Jamurat, Regional Planning Manager

SUBJECT: Gabriola Ecological Protection Zone Project (Proposed Bylaw No. 313)

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee accept the comments from the Regional District of Nanaimo Staff and Electoral Area Director.

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform the Gabriola Local Trust Committee of comments received from the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) and to seek direction from the LTC regarding whether an additional response is desired from the RDN Parks and Open Spaces Advisory Committee (POSAC).

BACKGROUND

On March 30, 2023, the Gabriola LTC passed a resolution requesting staff to refer Bylaw No. 313 to the RDN’s Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee.

GB-2023-010

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

that the Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee request staff to refer Bylaw No. 313 cited as “Gabriola Island Land Use Bylaw, 1999, Amendment No. 1, 2022” to the Islands Trust Conservancy Board, Snuneymuxw First Nation, and Regional District of Nanaimo’s Parks and Open Space Advisory Committees for comment.

Staff sent the referral to the RDN, however, the referral was not able to be included on the agenda for the POSAC meeting of May 15. Staff from the RDN have reached out with a response that incorporates comments from the RDN Area Director which is Attachment 1. RDN staff have indicated that the referral could be considered by POSAC but that their next meeting is not scheduled until October 16, 2023.

ANALYSIS

Issues

The resolution passed by the LTC in March specifically names the RDN committee (POSAC) who was intended to consider the referral. The POSAC meets relatively infrequently and often has full agendas, consequently the

Gabriola Ecological Protection Zone bylaw will not be able to be seen by the committee until their October meeting. However, staff have received comments on the bylaw from RDN Staff and the Electoral Area Director.

Staff are seeking a decision from the LTC on whether comments from RDN Staff and the Electoral Area Director fulfil the intent of the March LTC resolution, or if the LTC would like to ensure that the POSAC receives the referral in October of this year.

If the LTC would like to have the Ecological Protection Zone Bylaw on the POSAC meeting in October this would cause a minor delay in this minor project.

Staff are recommending the LTC accept the comments from RDN Staff and the Electoral Area Director.

ALTERNATIVES

The LTC may consider the following alternatives to the staff recommendation:

- 1. Bring the proposed bylaw to LTC for consideration of bylaw readings following the October POSAC meeting.**

That the Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee request staff to inform the Regional District of Nanaimo staff to include the referral for Bylaw No. 313 on the agenda for the Parks and Open Spaces Advisory Committee meeting in October 2023.

Submitted By:	Stephen Baugh, Planner 2	July 4, 2023
Concurrence:	Renée Jamurat, RPP MCIP, Regional Planning Manager	July 4, 2023