

STAFF REPORT

File No.: 6500-20 LTC Projects

(Keats Island Shoreline

Protection)

DATE OF MEETING: October 3, 2018

TO: Gambier Island Local Trust Committee

FROM: Jaime Dubyna, Planner 1

Northern Team

SUBJECT: Keats Island Shoreline Protection – Project Update

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee request staff to close the community questionnaire for the Keats Island Shoreline Protection project on [select date].

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) with preliminary results from the community questionnaire for the top priority project, Keats Island Shoreline Protection. The LTC is also asked to provide direction to staff regarding the closing date of the community questionnaire.

BACKGROUND

An objective of Phase 1 of this project is to solicit community input regarding shoreline values on Keats Island. As part of the first phase, a community questionnaire was prepared by staff and is currently available on the <u>project website</u> via Survey Monkey. Paper copies were mailed out to Keats Island property owners, and made available at the July 26, 2018 community consultation event held on Keats Island.

Phase 1 of the project involves two community consultation events. The first was held on July 26, 2018 on Keats Island and a second event is scheduled for October 3, 2018 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Glen Eagles Community Centre, 6262 Marine Drive, West Vancouver.

The purpose of the events are to share existing data related to shoreline protection, provide an overview of policy and regulatory tools available to protect shorelines, and to invite community members to provide their input for the project.

DISCUSSION

Preliminary results of the community questionnaire are as follows:

- Responses: 136
- 80% of respondents are part-time or seasonal residents on Keats Island
- 61% of respondents use community docks/wharves
- 40% of respondents have a private dock
- 60% of respondents consider the current level of foreshore development to be "about right"

- 46% of respondents support/strongly support limiting private docks to 'water access only' lots; while
 34% oppose/strongly oppose limiting private docks to 'water access only' lots
- The following environmental and cultural values were ranked highest in importance by respondents:
 - o Recreational opportunities: 60%
 - Sensitive ecosystems (incl. coastal bluffs): 59%
 - o Protected and/or undisturbed natural areas: 58%
- The following private land-related values were ranked highest in importance by respondents:
 - Shared or community docks: 73%
 - Waterfront accessibility (i.e. ramps, stairs): 69%
 - o Protection from shoreline erosion: 64%
- 50% of respondents support/strongly support enhancing policies and regulations to increase protection of Keats Islands' marine and shoreline areas; while 25% oppose/strongly oppose enhancing policies and regulations
- Specific concerns included:
 - limiting the size of docks
 - o a need for a public marina or more community docks
 - the implications of enhanced policies and regulations on existing infrastructure vs. the importance of regulating future development
- Several respondents indicated interest in volunteer stewardship options.

The community questionnaire will remain open until after the October 3 event. Staff have recommended that the LTC provide direction regarding the closing date of the community questionnaire.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will provide a report with a thorough analysis of final questionnaire results and recommendations for next steps at the November 15, 2018 LTC meeting.

Submitted By:	Jaime Dubyna, MSc.Pl. Planner 1	September 20, 2018
Concurrence:	Ann Kjerulf, MCIP, RPP Regional Planning Manager	September 25, 2018