



## **City of Terrace Public Hearings**

### **What is a Public Hearing?**

A Public Hearing is a meeting held by Council before adopting or changing (also called “amending”) the City’s zoning bylaw or Official Community Plan. Public Hearings are held to provide the public with an opportunity to present their views on land use applications. At the Public Hearing anyone who feels their interest in property is affected by a proposed zoning application or Official Community Plan change will be given the opportunity to present their views to Council.

### **How can I get more information about the proposed bylaw changes?**

Copies of the proposed bylaw, and other background material, are available for inspection at Development Services in the Public Works Building (5003 Graham Avenue), between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, except statutory holidays, commencing 10 days before the public hearing and ending on the day of the Public Hearing.

### **How do I present my opinion at a Public Hearing?**

The public can attend the Public Hearing to present their opinions directly to Council. At this time, the City of Terrace doesn’t require an application or advance sign up to speak; just attend the Hearing. Public Hearings are usually held at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall. City Hall is at 3215 Eby Street. Information about the time and location of the Public Hearing is published in the Terrace Standard in advance of the meeting. Notices regarding proposed amendments for a specific property are mailed to adjacent property owners within a 50 metre distance of the subject property. During the Public Hearing, the Chair will ask if anyone present would like to present. Speakers will be invited to approach the podium, state their name and address for the public record, and give their opinion.

### **Is there any other way to give my opinion?**

Yes, letters and emails can be sent in advance of the Public Hearing and will be distributed to Council. Messages on social media will NOT be considered as part of the Public Hearing deliberation process.

**Can I give my opinion anonymously?**

No, anonymous submissions are unverifiable and will not be considered in the Public Hearing process. Presenters are required to state their names and addresses at the public hearing and this information becomes part of the public record.

**What happens after a Public Hearing?**

Once the Public Hearing has concluded no further public input can be received regarding the matter. Council members must not communicate privately with any party at the hearing or consider material not presented at the Public Hearing. Council can hear from staff or consultants who may provide additional information.

At the Council meeting following the Public Hearing Council will consider whether to proceed with further readings or adoption of the proposed bylaw, table the proceedings in order to have additional information provided or to allow adequate time to review and assess new information presented at the Public Hearing, make amendments to change the bylaw, or defeat the bylaw.