

# **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 offer the public with an opportunity to provide their views on land use applications. Anyone who feels their interest in a property is affected by a proposed zoning application or Official Community Plan change will be given the opportunity to provide 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 <u>https://www.terrace.ca/planningapplications</u> 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?

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all City facilities have been closed to the public (with exception of emergency services). This means that individuals are not permitted to attend in person. Anyone wishing to voice their opinions regarding an application may do so by phone call or in writing (either by e-mail or letter dropped in the outdoor mailbox at 5003 Graham Avenue). To discuss additional options for input, please contact the Planning Department by email or phone prior to the Public Hearing . All input received will be distributed to Council. Messages on social media will NOT be considered as part of the Public Hearing deliberation process. Information regarding the time of the Public Hearing will be published in the Terrace Standard and on the City of Terrace web and Facebook pages in advance of the meeting. Notices regarding proposed amendments for a specific property will be mailed to adjacent property owners with in a 50 metre distance of the subject property.

# Can I give my opinion anonymously?

No, anonymous submissions are unverifiable and will not be considered in the Public Hearing process. Speakers 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 many 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.