

Beneath the Clocktower

Information and Events from Duncan City Hall September 2024

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR STAPLES

As we bid farewell to summer to welcome cozy sweaters and the beauty of fall leaves, September offers a fresh start—a time to recharge and look ahead. This renewal inspires us to advance with exciting projects and tackle those that test our values.

We're excited to announce several initiatives aimed at creating vibrant, welcoming spaces. At McAdam Park, we're installing a new playground accessible to all ages and abilities. Additionally, we'll soon be asking you to vote on the final name choices for the park at the corner of Station and Craig Streets, which is nearing its community-designed makeover. While over on Marchmont, we will be making crucial upgrades to improve pedestrian safety and enhance the road surface and utilities.

Beyond infrastructure, we're eliminating barriers to develop diverse, affordable, and supportive housing options through our partnership with the Government of Canada, which will help us develop 313 new housing units over the next three years through CMHC's Housing Accelerator Fund. The City is also fulfilling one of its strategic objectives to update the zoning bylaw to align with the community's new Official Community Plan. The zoning bylaw update will include a review of the City's parking requirements for new developments and the possibility of incorporating inclusionary zoning.

And sadly, we all struggle with needing to remove five beloved and needed trees from City Square, a decision we certainly don't take lightly. The trees have become unsafe, with falling branches creating a hazard for people and vehicles. We all love these trees and together, we will select replacement trees through an online engagement process. From there we will prioritize the largest ones we can plant as replacements. Additionally, we're encouraging installing rooftop gardens and tree coverage in new developments, and we're planting new trees in public areas in anticipation of our future tree canopy target action plan. As we navigate new construction and government policy changes, our goal is to balance growth while ensuring a thriving canopy is developed for future generations.

As we journey through the highs and lows of changes in our community, it is together that we are building a brighter, more connected Duncan today and for the future.



SMALL-SCALE MULTI-UNIT HOUSING ZONING AMENDMENT

On June 3, 2024, Council approved Zoning Bylaw amendments to comply with new Provincial Government requirements to permit small-scale multi-unit housing. This means that all residential properties in the City of Duncan are now permitted to have up to 4 residential units.

What do I need to do?

Nothing. This change simply updates the number of residential units that are permitted on a property in the low density residential zone, should a property owner wish to add units.

Can I add just one residential unit?

Yes! The new zoning requirements allow for 1, 2, 3 or 4 residential units in the low density residential zone. These units may be attached or detached.

What else do I need to know?

There are other building parameters that still must be met with regard to maximum height, setbacks, parking and maximum parcel coverage, and a building permit is still required.

Please contact developmentservices@duncan.ca if you have questions about the Zoning Bylaw.



A NEW PLAYGROUND IS COMING TO MCADAM PARK!

Work is now underway on a brand-new playground for McAdam Park. Expected to be complete later this year, the installation will include a variety of elements, including two play areas: one for older kids and a smaller one for younger children that includes fun accessible elements and rubber surfacing.

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback on their preferred play equipment. Council approved the public's selections, and you can view the survey results online at bigconversations.duncan.ca/mcadam-playground.

2024 ANNUAL AWARDS

Do you know someone who deserves to be recognized for their contribution to the community? The City is receiving nominations of individuals from the Cowichan Valley for the Scroll of Honour, Perpetual Arts Trophy, and Perpetual Trophy for Excellence & Sportsmanship.

Visit City Hall or <u>duncan.ca</u> for more information and a nomination form. Nominations must be received by September 30, 2024.





DOUBLE BAG IT BEFORE YOU BIN IT

For the health and safety of collection staff, please remember to securely double bag dog waste and personal hygiene waste including diapers, sanitary pads and other menstrual items, bandages, and masks. Failure to double bag these items may result in your garbage not being collected. Please note that dog waste is not permitted in the recycling or organics bins.

Coming Soon!

The City is expecting to roll out automated curbside collection in 2025. Visit duncan.ca/city-hall/public-works-engineering/garbage-recycling/automated-collection/ for more information, and watch for updates on the roll-out on our website and Facebook page.

MARCHMONT ROAD RENEWAL

The City of Duncan recently issued an Invitation to Tender for the Marchmont Road Renewal project. In addition to facilitating the replacement of water and storm utilities, this project will result in an improved

road surface for drivers and enhanced sidewalk for pedestrians, including speed reduction measures such as sidewalk bump outs, pavement markings, and signage.

Watch our Facebook page for updates on the start of the project and traffic impacts, or sign up for e-mail alerts at duncan.ca/category/news-events/.

For a list of other construction and road works projects, visit duncan.ca/city-hall/public-works-engineering/ and scroll down to Current Capital Projects.



CONNECT WITH US!

In addition to our website, <u>www.duncan.ca</u>, we share information on our projects and initiatives on Small Town. Big Conversations., our public engagement platform. Visit us at <u>bigconversations.duncan.ca</u> to learn about current projects, active planning and development applications, 2024 budget information, accessibility in the City, and more!