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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 13, 2023**

## **‘City invites community to Small Town. Big Conversations.’**

DUNCAN – The City of Duncan has launched ‘Small Town. Big Conversations.’, a new engagement platform that will serve as an online hub for the City’s public engagement efforts. People are invited to participate in local planning and decision-making by asking questions, sharing ideas, and providing feedback on projects that will shape the future of Duncan at [bigconversations.duncan.ca](https://bigconversations.duncan.ca)

The platform has launched with three initial public engagement efforts: Photo Contest (enter to win \$100 Downtown Duncan Dollars), Official Community Plan Update, and Development Cost Charges Update.

"We are thrilled to launch ‘Small Town. Big Conversations.’," says City of Duncan Mayor Michelle Staples. "Meaningful public engagement involves hearing a range of perspectives from all residents, businesses and citizens, and when we hear and consider a diversity of perspectives, we can all work together to build stronger plans and solutions for our community."

The platform will be updated regularly with a range of opportunities for residents to participate and share ideas on projects across the community. The goal will be to serve as a positive space for residents to come together and share different perspectives.

The information available can be viewed and accessed by everyone. Those that wish to partake will be asked to create an account via a simple registration form. Only usernames will be visible to the public; however, registering allows residents to be updated on the projects that matter most to them, and helps the City know a little bit about who is engaging on a given topic. Registration also promotes a safe and respectful space for all users. We encourage all residents to take advantage of this exciting new tool and to join us in shaping the future of our city.

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