

Maple Ridge This Month

MID MONTH UPDATE: NOVEMBER 2013

SPOTLIGHT ON: Tuesday, November 19 Public Hearing

Regional Context Statement and Growing Medical Marihuana

On November 19, 2013 Council will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 pm. The agenda for this meeting contains two property matters relating to a rezoning and Official Community Plan Amendment for a property located at 23920 - 112 Avenue. In addition, there are two items that may be of broader community interest that we want to highlight.

The first item is the District's Regional Context Statement that is part of the ongoing work on the Metro Vancouver Regional Growth Strategy. This item came before Council on October 7, 2013 at the Committee of the Whole meeting and then again on October 8, 2013 at the regular Council Meeting where it was moved to Public Hearing.

The next item on the November 19, 2013 Public Hearing that may be of broad public interest is the Zoning Bylaw 7011-2013 to amend the Zoning Bylaw to establish zoning regulations for the commercial production of medical marihuana under the Canadian Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations.

This item came before Council on July 22, 2013 at the Committee of the Whole meeting (Item 1106) and then again on July 23, 2013 at the regular Council meeting. Council gave second reading to the Bylaw and directed staff to send it to the



Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) for comments, and when those comments were received, to forward the Bylaw to Public Hearing. Those comments have been received and the item is now part of the November 19, 2013 Public Hearing Agenda.

There are links to the Regional Growth Statement Bylaw and the Medical Marihuana Bylaw on the District website at mapleridge.ca. You can access them through the 'What's New' link on the top of the page or the 'Agenda's' section that's part of the 'Mayor and Council' link on the home page.

In addition, the Public Hearing Notice appears elsewhere in this edition of The News, and provides you with ways you can let us know your views on these Bylaws.

INFORMED

November 2013

Council Meeting Schedule

Mayor and Council encourage everyone to attend these important public meetings. It's your chance to see how public policy is debated and enacted.

Monday, November 18

9:00 am, Workshop - Blaney Room

1:00 pm, Committee of the Whole - Council Chambers

Tuesday, November 19

7:00 pm, Public Hearing - Council Chambers

Tuesday, November 26

7:00 pm, Council Meeting - Council Chambers

Agendas & Minutes

Agendas for these meetings are posted online the Friday before the meeting date. Go to mapleridge.ca, click the link under Mayor & Council on the home page.

Council This Week

Subscribe to the 'Council This Week' eNewsletter that provides a summary of issues discussed at Council Workshop meetings. Go to mapleridge.ca, click the link to 'Council This Week' and sign up today.

Council Meeting Videos

If you are unable to attend a Council Meeting, Public Hearing or Committee of the Whole meeting you can now watch these meetings on your computer 24/7. The entire unedited meetings are posted two to three days after the meeting. The video is indexed to the agenda package so that you can watch them in their entirety or click through by agenda item. Go to mapleridge.ca and click on the video link at the bottom left of the home page.

INFORMED: New Target Canada Store is Just the Beginning. Next: Albion Shopping.



On Wednesday, Target Canada opened their new 110,000 square foot store in Maple Ridge. The line-up at 8:00 am is evidence of the strong demand for greater shopping alternatives in Maple Ridge. This demand has been the motivation for Council's work to bring destination shopping development to the Albion Flats.

Much of the land in the Albion Flats is part of the Agricultural Land Reserve. The use and development of this land is strictly controlled by the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC). In order to accelerate economic development in Albion, the District took advantage of an unprecedented opportunity for the ALC to provide broad comments on a comprehensive plan that was developed in 2011.

In December 2011, the ALC provided its comments which indicated that it would entertain an exclusion application for the lands south of 105 Avenue subject to certain conditions, and that lands to the north should retain their agricultural designation.



In the early part of 2012, Ridge Smart Centres, owners of a number of properties in the area, approached the District about a possible land exchange that would advance the development of destination shopping centre for the community. Smart Centres is a commercial property developer that has shopping centres throughout Canada. Council passed a resolution authorizing District staff to enter into discussions on a possible land exchange.

In early 2013, two property owners north of 105 Avenue made exclusion applications to the ALC to remove their lands from the ALR. Recently, the ALC ruled on those applications and affirmed their 2011 position. With those decisions, the path to creating the destination shopping and economic lands in the Albion area has become clearer.

In the coming weeks and months the details of the District's exclusion application will be brought forward by Council and the public processes will begin. The ALC opinion was provided on the day that this Council was sworn in. Since that time we've been working towards making destination shopping a reality in Albion.

INFORMED: Winter Market

The Final Haney Farmers Market of 2013



After a great four week run undercover at Trice Farms, the Haney Farmers Market is taking a break until Saturday, November 30 when the annual Winter Market will close out an amazing 2013 year for the group.

The Winter Market runs from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm on Saturday, November 30 at the Golden Ears United Church at the corner of Dewdney Trunk Road and 222 Street. This is a great place to do a little Christmas shopping, including the gift that will keep on giving, a membership to the Farmers Market Society. It's the best deal in town, because your \$10 membership gets you \$10 in market dollars you can spend during 2014.

Enjoy the amazing treats that the host 'Golden Ears Ladies Auxiliary' create along with preserves, bread, fudge and all sorts of gastronomic delights from your market favourites. It's a feast for the senses and a great way to connect with all your market friends before the holidays. See you at the last market of 2013.

FEEDBACK

Contact us at enquiries@mapleridge.ca

If you have a question about any of the content in this ad, or questions about any programs or services offered by the District of Maple Ridge, please send an email to enquiries@mapleridge.ca and one of our team members will respond to you.



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