



Public Information Meeting Summary Proposed Bylaw Amendments 722.9 and 337.123 Riparian and Ocean Shoreline Protection

On July 4, 2024, the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) Planning & Development Department hosted a public information meeting on proposed bylaw amendments 722.9 and 337.123. Approximately 56 community members attended the meeting, with representation from all five SCRD electoral areas.

Logistics:

Date: July 4, 2024

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Location: Sunshine Coast Regional District Boardroom - 1975 Field Road, Sechelt

Purpose:

The purpose of the meeting was to inform the community and answer questions about the proposed amendments to zoning bylaws 722 and 337. The zoning bylaw amendments aim to strengthen the protection of riparian areas (land beside freshwater) and ocean shorelines in the Electoral Areas and update SCRD bylaws to meet legislative requirements and provincial guidelines.

Format:

The meeting was hosted in an open house format, which allowed participants to drop in at their convenience during the designated hours.

Community members were greeted at the door and directed to a welcome station. Attendees were asked to sign in for the event and place a sticker on a map of the region to identify which electoral areas were represented at the meeting.

An information station for each proposed amendment was setup around the Boardroom, stocked with information on the specific amendment, supporting material including reference zoning bylaws and provincial legislation, regulations, and guidelines. An SCRD Planner was positioned at each station to provide an opportunity for community members to have one-on-one conversations with staff on these proposed changes.

In addition to the stations, posterboards were available for review throughout the room with information on legal non-confirming status per the *Local Government Act*, SCRD variance application process, benefits of freshwater riparian areas, and the upcoming public hearing.

Advertising:

Advertisement for the public information meeting was run in the Coast Reporter in the June 28, 2024, edition. In addition, details of the meeting and accompanying information was posted on the SCRD's Let's Talk engagement platform (letstalk.scrd.ca/micro-policy-fix), SCRD Facebook page, and a news release was published on June 26 which was picked up by the Coast Reporter.

Conclusion:

The public information meeting provided an opportunity for community members to ask questions and share feedback with SCRD staff and Directors, while gaining a deeper understanding of the proposed zoning bylaw amendments. The turnout of approximately 56 attendees demonstrates community interest in the proposed zoning bylaw amendments and engaging with staff on local planning matters.

Next Steps:

A public hearing on the proposed zoning bylaw amendments will take place Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 7:00 PM. Members of the public can attend the public hearing online (Zoom) or in-person at the SCRD's Office on Field Road in Sechelt. Further information can be found at <https://www.scrd.ca/public-hearings>.

Following the Public Hearing, staff will review and analyze the feedback received and consider adjustments to the proposed amendments based on community input. The amendments will then be brought to the SCRD Board for consideration of third reading and adoption.