

NEWS RELEASE

Distributed July 24, 2024

Planning begins for transit and mobility upgrades in City's Country Club area

Seeking public input on Country Club Urban Centre Transit and Mobility Upgrades

Summary

The City of Nanaimo is launching an initiative to update the Country Club Urban Centre with a new transit exchange and streetscape improvements. The Country Club Urban Centre Mobility Upgrades project will focus on three key areas: exploring potential locations for the new transit exchange, identifying desirable features for this exchange and developing strategies to improve mobility for all users in the area. The plan aims to make it safer, more accessible and interconnected for walking, biking, rolling and taking transit.

The vision for a well-connected Country Club Urban Centre was established by City Plan – Nanaimo Reimagined, the Regional District of Nanaimo's Transit Redevelopment Strategy, and community input received to date.

The first round of engagement kicks off on July 24, 2024, with the goal of gathering community input on ideas to include in a new transit exchange in this important community hub.

Community members can get involved in the engagement process by:

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Dropping by the community pop-up event on Saturday, July 27 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at Country Club Centre Mall (outside Fitness World / Jysk). View displays, speak with City staff and share input by completing a feedback form or posting their thoughts on the displays.

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Providing feedback online between July 24 and August 30, 2024. Paper feedback forms are available at City Hall or at the Vancouver Island Regional Library (Wellington Branch) in Country Club Centre Mall.

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Subscribing to project updates on getinvolvednanaimo.ca to stay informed about the project.

This initial engagement marks the beginning of our planning process for the updated transit exchange. A second round of community input is planned for the fall, which will aim to finalize the design concepts and features for the transit exchange. Construction is expected to commence in 2026-27.

Strategic Link: This project supports Council's strategic goal of "Maintaining and Growing Current Services" by ensuring that the City continues to plan for, maintain and grow its services while remaining fiscally responsible and responsive to our community's evolving needs.

Continued... Planning begins for transit and mobility upgrades in City's Country Club area

Key Points

- The City is planning mobility upgrades in the Country Club Urban Centre including a new transit exchange and complete streets improvements along Norwell Drive.
- Project planning is building off the vision outlined in City Plan – Nanaimo Reimagined, which identifies the Country Club Urban Centre as “a central mobility hub where major mobility networks connect”.
- Round one engagement kicks off on July 24, 2024 with a community pop-up event on Saturday, July 27 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at Country Club Centre Mall (outside Fitness World / Jysk).
- An online survey is open from July 24 to August 30, 2024 to gather input about community mobility and connectivity considerations, opportunities, and potential features that may be desired for the new transit exchange.

Quotes

"City Plan envisions community hubs called Urban Centres, with services, businesses and residences close together, all served by an efficient transportation network. Provincial legislation around transit-oriented areas provide for more intense development in the Country Club Urban Centre. We want to make sure it is well served by active transportation and look forward to hearing from the community."

Leonard Krog
Mayor
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- The Regional District of Nanaimo's Transit Redevelopment Strategy also identifies opportunities to improve the existing transit exchange and explore alternative locations for the exchange in the Country Club Area.
- The planning process was initiated in spring 2024 and is anticipated to be complete by winter 2024.

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Contact:

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