

GTCA AGM Presentation

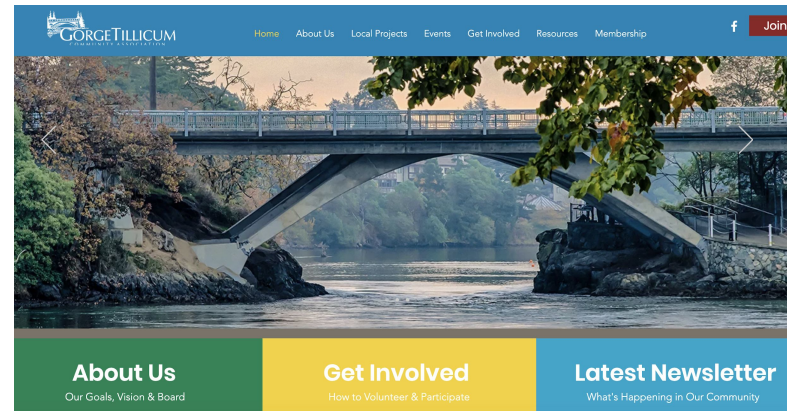
APRIL 23, 2024

GTCA – What We Do

Communications & Information Sharing



Facebook 2600+ Followers



Instagram 483 Followers

- 3 issues per year
- 3800 hard copies delivered to every home in our neighbourhood

Communications & Community Engagement



Informal communications & conversations

- Responding to questions and concerns
- Community discussions
- Meetings over coffee

Engaging in the Development Process

WHAT THE GTCA WOULD LIKE TO SEE FROM NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Preserving and Increasing Green Space

- Saving trees and wherever possible adding additional green space
- Planting new trees
- Landscaping features such as:
 - rain gardens and swales
 - drought tolerant plants/native plants
 - shrubs, ornamental/flowering plants
- Tenant garden space for multi-family buildings



Sidewalks

- Inset from the traffic, with trees and other landscaping providing a buffer between cars and pedestrians
- Better curb cuts for mobility challenges
- Proper sidewalks i.e. not substandard sidewalk such as on Cowper St.
- Meandering sidewalks where space allows



GTCA Community Design Guidelines (2019) DRAFT

Mixed Use Buildings

- Would prefer spaces suitable for business that would improve services to the neighbourhood such as dining, coffee shops, pubs/bars, retail, bakery and green grocers
- On larger properties such as the V lot (Burnside/Tillicum), businesses that are economic drivers such as day surgeries, hospice, long term care, etc.
- Would like to see service organizations, offices, small commercial along Burnside and Tillicum



Parking, Bikes, Personal Mobility and Drop off Zones

- The GTCA is in favour of giving reductions to current Saanich parking requirements
- Buildings must build in some flexibility with respect to transportation
- Parking should be unbundled from units
- Providing space for recreational & commuter bikes, scooters etc. (This would include charging stations for electric bikes and scooters)
- Drop off zones for delivery vehicles (increasingly important in the Amazon era)
- Guest parking & guest bike racks
- Alternative transportation such as free bus passes or car share for tenants that don't have a car

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- Meeting with developers at various stages of the process
- Encouraging them to follow the Community Design Guidelines
- Encouraging and supporting robust public consultation
- Negotiating Community Amenities
- Preparing official letters to Saanich Planning
- Speaking to Council

Gorge Canada Day Picnic



- 20+ years
- Largest event in Saanich with 10,000+ visitors
- Strong neighbourhood & business support

Burnside Buzz



- An event celebrating pollinators by the new pollinator garden.

Pumpkin Parade



- Third Annual Pumpkin Parade
- Great community response
- Sooo many pumpkins

Pollinator Gardens



- New pollinator garden at the Sunflower Mural thriving
- New fencing + signage coming soon.

Music in the Park



- Joint initiative with Saanich
- Great turn out!
- Everyone was up dancing

Boulevard Brigade



- Volunteers who take care of these planted areas
- Without these volunteers Saanich would have just put in grass or concrete
- Lots of spring bulbs added in the last few years

Gorge -Exploring an Identity



- Poetry & Musical performances
- Hosted at Cedar Shores
- Well attended and received

Gorge Park Clean-ups



- Cleanups of Gorge Park
- Last cleanup was this past weekend – April 20
- Good turn out



Curb Appeal

- Neighbourhood art displays
- Last year May 1-14



New this year - Fairy Door Festival

- May 1-14, 2024 community displays
- May 4 - Fairy Door Workshop
- May 11 - Fairy Procession & Scavenger Hunt

Return of Number 11 Bus Campaign



- Multi-media campaign
- Series of well attended public meetings with BC Transit
- Ultimate result was the return of the much needed bus route.

GTCA – How We Do It

Our Working Groups

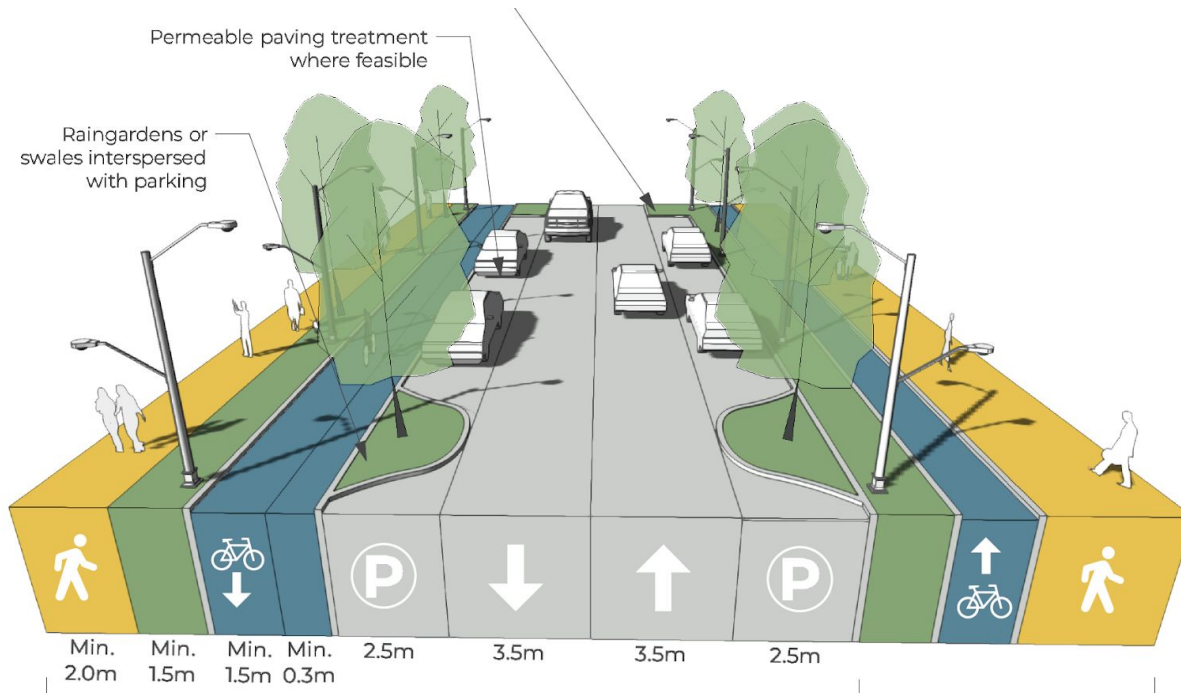
Climate & Environment Working Group



Key Initiatives:

- Walter Park Stewardship
- Pollinator Projects
- Boulevard Brigade
- Tree Group

Land Use Working Group



Combination of the former Buildings Working Group & the Mobility and Transportation Working Group

Key Initiatives:

- Lobbying for multi-modal transportation
- Better public realm infrastructure
- Community amenities

Arts Working Group



- Promote all things artistic in our neighbourhood:
- public art installations
 - performing arts
 - art shows etc.

Canada Day Committee



- Dedicated group of volunteers who organize the Canada Day Event.
- A few have been involved since day one!
- Co-Chaired by Chris Kask & Brandon Devnich

What's Happening in the Neighbourhood

Housing Developments



VERY slow progress on
housing developments



Albina Supportive Housing Development



- Managed by Our Place Society
- Now occupied
- A GTCA board member sits on the community advisory board

Victoria to Saanich Cable Replacement



Burnside Road Works

- Presentation coming up
- Work presents an opportunity to long promised and much needed improvements to Burnside Road.

2024/2025 Key Initiative #1

Community Celebrations & Public Art

2024/2025 Key Initiative #2

Getting More Trees Planted

2024/2025 Key Initiatives #3

Neighbourhood Advocacy

- *Speeding/Traffic concerns*
- *Burnside Roadworks*
- *Development Housing & Amenities*

Together We Can a Difference

Thank You