

Frequently Asked Questions DRAFT QUADRA MCKENZIE PLAN

What is the purpose of the Quadra McKenzie Plan?

The purpose of the Quadra McKenzie Plan is to provide a land use and transportation plan to guide growth and change in the area over the next 20 years. The Plan addresses things like where to locate new housing, key objectives for the redevelopment of major sites, improvements to the transportation network and priorities for new parks and open spaces.

What geographic area does the Plan cover?

The Plan covers an area that includes many important regional and local destinations. It is framed by the McKenzie and Quadra Corridors that connect communities with important travel routes. The Plan includes areas within approximately 400-500 metres of both the McKenzie Corridor (Hwy 17 to UVIC) and Quadra Corridor (Hwy 17 to Tolmie Ave / City of Victoria border).





Frequently Asked Questions DRAFT QUADRA MCKENZIE PLAN

How does the draft Quadra McKenzie Plan relate to Saanich's Official Community Plan?

The Official Community Plan (OCP), which was updated in 2024, is the document that guides growth and change for all of Saanich. All other plans and policies must align with the OCP. A key direction of the OCP is the identification of Centres, Corridors and Villages as Primary Growth Areas where the majority of future growth will be accommodated.

The Quadra McKenzie Plan (QMP) directly implements the directions of the OCP at a more detailed geographic scale, with a focus on land use and transportation. The QMP is particularly important to achieving the OCP vision, as it contains 40% of Saanich's Primary Growth Areas.

Where are we at in the process to develop the Quadra McKenzie Plan?

A Draft Plan is currently out for public review and comment until November 25th. The Draft Plan was developed based on input in earlier phases, including through workshops, surveys and online mapping tools. The Plan will be refined based on public consultation and presented to Council for consideration in Spring 2025 (March / April).



What does the Plan address?

The Plan addresses a range of topics but has a core focus on land use and transportation. Key elements of the plan include detailed guidance for desired future land use on a parcel-by-parcel basis and concepts for complete street designs. The Plan builds on and integrates direction from other Saanich plans, such as the Housing Strategy, Active Transportation Plan. Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Urban Forest Strategy.

How will land use changes be implemented?

When the Plan is adopted, clear policy guidance will be provided for the desired future land use, building height, density and other considerations for each property in the Plan area.

A land use change would only happen if it were initiated by the property owner through a rezoning process. The Quadra McKenzie Plan would guide evaluation of any rezoning application. The decision on whether to approve a land use change would be made by Council through a public process.

In future, Council could elect to "pre-zone" part or all of the Plan area to align zoning with policy direction. Pre-zoning would occur through a public process and as with rezoning, any development would need to be initiated by the property owner.



Frequently Asked Questions DRAFT QUADRA MCKENZIE PLAN

What is the Plan proposing for McKenzie Avenue?

The Plan proposes to redesign McKenzie Avenue as a complete street with changes focused on prioritizing transit, improving pedestrian and cycling facilities and increasing space for street trees and green space. These changes are intended to align with Saanich's climate and transportation goals, including aligning with the mode share goal of having 50% of all trips on Saanich taken by transit, bike or walking.

The proposed changes involve different design treatments on different segments of McKenzie Avenue, looking to respond the land use context (<u>see pages 74-77</u>). Intersection changes would also be implemented to improve the safety and efficiency of travel for all modes.

The key change involves adding transit priority measures / lanes as ridership increases over time. The majority of improvements to sidewalks, boulevards and cycling facilities will occur as part of the redevelopment process, as right of way space is dedicated, and frontage improvements are completed.

When would changes on McKenzie Avenue be implemented?

Initial changes on McKenzie Avenue would be implemented in the next 5-10 years, with additional improvements dependent on the redevelopment process. Changes could be made incrementally and would be largely driven by transit ridership numbers / demand.

The primary change will be the conversion of general-purpose traffic lanes to transit-only lanes. The actual amount of total road space would remain relatively similar. Changes to transit priority can occur in an incremental way and could include:

- Transit priority only at key intersections;
- Transit priority only at specific times of day;
- Transit priority shared with high occupancy vehicles; and/or
- Transit priority only on certain segments of McKenzie Avenue.

The McKenzie Avenue design would have the flexibility to adjust to optimize outcomes for all modes and respond to emerging issues.

How can I provide input?

There are several options to provide input on the Draft Plan. The easiest way is to complete the <u>online survey</u>, which is available until November 25. Feedback can also be provided by submitting an email to <u>qms@saanich.ca</u>. More information on engagement opportunities can be found on the <u>Project website</u>.

How will public feedback be used?

All feedback will be reviewed and amendments to the Draft Plan will be considered based on public comments. A proposed Plan will be developed based on these comments and presented to Council for consideration. In the Council report, major issues raised in public consultation will be elaborated upon and the rationale for changes (or not) will be explained.

When will Council make a decision?

A Proposed Plan is scheduled to be presented to Saanich Council in the Spring 2025 (March/April).