

City of Kelowna
Regular Council Meeting
AGENDA



Monday, July 24, 2023
9:00 am
Council Chamber
City Hall, 1435 Water Street

Pages

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Confirmation of Minutes** 2 - 3
Regular AM Meeting - July 10, 2023
3. **Reports**
 - 3.1 **Building Strong Neighbourhoods** 4 - 24

To provide Council with background information and opportunities to better support and engage with Neighbourhood Associations and advance the goals of the Strong Neighbourhoods program.
4. **Resolution Closing the Meeting to the Public**

THAT this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Sections 90(1)(e)(i) and 90(2)(b) of the Community Charter for Council to deal with matters relating to the following:

 - Acquisition of Land
 - Legal Advice
 - Confidential Negotiations with the Province
5. **Adjourn to Closed Session**
6. **Reconvene to Open Session**
7. **Termination**



City of Kelowna Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Date:	Monday, July 10, 2023
Location:	Council Chamber City Hall, 1435 Water Street
Members Present	Mayor Tom Dyas, Councillors Ron Cannan, Maxine DeHart, Gord Lovegrove, Mohini Singh, Rick Webber and Loyal Wooldridge
Members Absent	Councillors Charlie Hodge and Luke Stack
Staff Present	City Manager, Doug Gilchrist; City Clerk, Stephen Fleming

(* Denotes partial attendance)

1. Call to Order

Mayor Dyas called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

Moved By Councillor Wooldridge/Seconded By Councillor Cannan

THAT the Minutes of the Regular AM Meeting and Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 19, 2023 be confirmed as circulated.

Carried

3. Resolution Closing the Meeting to the Public

Moved By Councillor Wooldridge/Seconded By Councillor Lovegrove

THAT this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 90(1) (e), (g), (k) and Section 90(2) (b) of the Community Charter for Council to deal with matters relating to the following:

- Acquisition of Land
- Potential Litigation
- Provision of a Municipal Service
- Confidential Information from the Province

Carried

4. Adjourn to Closed Session

The meeting adjourned to a closed session at 8:01 a.m.

5. Reconvene to Open Session with Councillor Hodge present.

The meeting reconvened to an open session at 12:22 p.m.

6. Termination

The meeting was declared terminated at 12:22 p.m.

Mayor Dyas

sf/acm



City Clerk

DRAFT

Report to Council



Date: July 24, 2023
To: Council
From: City Manager
Subject: Building Strong Neighbourhoods
Department: Active Living & Culture

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives, for information, the report from Active Living & Culture, dated July 24, 2023, that outlines the Strong Neighbourhoods program and Kelowna’s Neighbourhood Associations;

AND THAT Council directs staff to develop a pilot program that supports and provides funding for Neighbourhood Associations as outlined in the report dated July 24, 2023, for Council consideration during the 2024 budget deliberations;

AND THAT Council Policy 305 Guidelines for Communications & Cooperation Between the City and Neighbourhood Associations be rescinded.

Purpose:

To provide Council with background information and opportunities to better support and engage with Neighbourhood Associations and advance the goals of the Strong Neighbourhoods program.

Background:

Strong Neighbourhoods:

Great cities are made up of strong neighbourhoods. In turn, it takes citizens that are inspired, involved, connected, and empowered to create strong neighbourhoods. Since 2014, the City’s Strong Neighbourhoods team has been a catalyst for resident connection with the understanding that the more neighbours feel connected, the more they will contribute to a culture of care, increase sense of belonging and inclusion, enhance safety, and ultimately will lead to a more inclusive and livable city.

The Strong Neighbourhoods program provides tools and resources to support residents in creating the neighbourhoods they envision. This is achieved through various programs:

- Events
 - Neighbourhood events - provide support for neighbours to host get-togethers
 - Meet your Street kit – loan lawn games and connection resources for block socials

- Community events – support school-based and other community led events
- Park & Play – activate neighbourhood parks to encourage families to go outside and connect with neighbours and friends
- Grants
 - Neighbourhood Grants – offer up to \$1,500 in matching grant funds to support hyperlocal projects that socially connect neighbours, enhance the neighbourhood through placemaking projects or involve neighbours sharing skills or talents with each other
 - Youth Development & Engagement Grants – provide up to \$1,000 in matching grant funds to support youth-led (13-19 years old) community building projects
- Recognition and Resources
 - Neighbour Day - an annual celebration to meet a new neighbour, get to know neighbours even better, tackle a neighbourhood project, or lend a helping hand to a neighbour in need
 - Kind Neighbour Kudos – neighbours recognize neighbours who make a difference, make contributions to the neighbourhood and stimulate neighbourhood engagement
 - Good Neighbour Toolkits – provide resources to help neighbours connect, such as conversation starter cards, 'Hello Neighbour' door hangers and neighbourhood safety pamphlets.
 - Block Connectors – residents committed to connecting face-to-face with the closest 10-20 neighbours on their block or apartment floor. They are dedicated to animating the block and inspiring others to share their skills, passions and talents.

Strong Neighbourhoods also plays a key role in making communities safer. In partnership with Community Safety, Block Connectors receive tips, tricks and best practices for keeping themselves and their neighbourhoods safer. They also play a role in Emergency Preparedness in building an understanding of what neighbours have pets or may need additional assistance in the event of an emergency.

Neighbourhood Associations:

Neighbourhood Associations (NA's) are non-profit organizations that run neighbourhood-level events and advocate for the interests and goals of residents within the neighbourhood.

Today, there are seven registered NA's under the BC Societies Act and one unincorporated organization in Kelowna. In addition, there are at least four neighbourhood groups interested in forming a non-profit organization and two NA's that are no longer active. Each association ranges in the number of members and level of activity. The chart below provides a snapshot of the existing organizations, using information provided by the NA as well as current population data from Environics Analytics:

Neighbourhood Association	Status	Membership	Population within boundary
Clifton Highlands Community Association	Active, registered non-profit	~40 paying members Mailing list: ~160 subscribers	Population: 1831 Households: 652
Kelowna Downtown Knox Mtn Neighbourhood Association	Active, registered non-profit	"low membership"	Population: 7328 Households: 3823
Kelowna Lands and Orchards (KLO) Neighbourhood Association	Active, registered non-profit	~50 paying members Mailing list: ~400 subscribers	Population: 15,692 Households: 7735
Kelowna South Central Association of Neighbourhoods (KSAN)	Active, registered non-profit	~65 paying members	Population: 13,372 Households: 6987
Kettle Valley Neighbourhood Association	Active, not registered	No paying membership Mailing list: ~600 subscribers	Population: 3466 Households: 1071
Okanagan Mission Resident's Association	Active, registered non-profit	~40 paying members Mailing list: ~200 subscribers	Population: 21,568 Households: 7332
Quail Ridge Residents Association	Active, registered non-profit	~461 paying members	Population: 1160 Households: 495
Rutland Residents Association	Active, registered non-profit	~30-40 paying members	Population: 32,480 Households: 12,547
Hall Road	Forming		
Glenmore	Interest in forming		
Wilden	Interest in forming		
Landmark	Interest in forming		
Belgo-Black Mountain	No longer active		
McKinley Landing Residents Association	No longer active		

Recognizing that Kelowna remains one of the fastest growing cities in Canada, with demographics that have changed substantially over the past ten years, the role of NA's in fostering community connection and social cohesion remains important.

Over the past 12 months, Strong Neighbourhoods set out to gain a better understanding of Neighbourhood Associations and how to best work with them moving forward. From May 2022 to January 2023, Strong Neighbourhoods held separate meetings with the board members of eight active NA's and three groups interested in forming an association. These meetings focused predominantly on how NA's can work more closely with Strong Neighbourhoods, however there was also valuable learning about the roles, responsibilities, expectations, capacity, mandate, strengths, and challenges of NA's that is pertinent to other City departments.

Key themes from the engagement include:

- **Role ambiguity** - nearly all groups saw their primary purpose as organizing the neighbourhood to be able to better represent their neighbourhood's needs and concerns to the City; however, there was uncertainty about what the City expects and requires of them for their voices to be considered. Additionally, many groups mentioned that being an information conduit from the City to residents and connecting and bringing the neighbourhood together were important roles for association.
- **Low membership** - Most NA's struggle to recruit members and most of their activities are board-led with few other volunteers. There is a clear discrepancy between the membership numbers and the population in the neighborhoods, in all cases.
- **Limited capacity** - Nearly all associations expressed an interest in growing their membership and doing more initiatives and events that brought neighbours together but felt their current capacity was already stretched. Additionally, the cost to start and maintain the operation of the organization, implement community events, recruit members, and have regular meetings were expressed as challenges. Many of the groups mentioned that they would have the capacity to do more connection and engagement initiatives for the neighbourhood if additional support was made available to associations (i.e., financial or rental space for meetings). Many groups also mentioned barriers such as the cost to print flyers, maintain a website, or advertise through various online media channels.

In addition to the City's engagement, some of the NA's met as a group in January to discuss their collective goals and challenges. This meeting resulted in five NAs writing a letter to Mayor and Council requesting a review and update to Policy 305 along with several requests to help improve their capacity:

- **Operational funding** – financial support towards administration, ongoing operations, and events/initiatives.
- **Meeting space** – access to public meeting space at minimal to no cost
- **Communication support** - ability to utilize City resources to better reach and inform residents of their NA representative.

Discussion:

Community Development Opportunities

NA's are an engaged group of residents who care about their community. Through the Strong Neighbourhood program and other City capacity building initiatives, the NA's could be a greater asset to community development and neighbourhood connectedness. They are uniquely poised to host events, share neighbourhood-level opportunities for residents to get involved in their neighbourhood, and foster welcoming, safe, connected communities in a variety of ways:

- Animating neighbourhood spaces
- Building connections between neighbours and hosting gatherings
- Identifying neighbourhood enhancement projects as well as safety and sustainability initiatives

Other communities, such as the City of Waterloo, have developed *Affiliation Agreements* which outline the role of the NA's and clarify expectations of the municipality. The intention of these agreements is to identify value alignment between the city and the NA as they work together to build stronger communities. These agreements enable NA's to become a vehicle for building stronger neighbourhoods by furthering community development initiatives.

Pilot Program:

With Council's endorsement, staff are considering the development of a three-year pilot program that would enhance NA's abilities to build strong, connected, safe neighbourhoods and provide NA's with some operating funding to further increase their capacity.

The Pilot Program would consist of an agreement that outlines the roles, responsibilities, and expectations; an operating grant component; on-going collaboration with a focus on community development; and clear evaluation criteria to measure success.

This would be accomplished through an Affiliation Agreement that the NA's would enter into with the City which would outline the NA's commitment to enhance neighbourhood connectedness and safety through a variety of channels:

- Attend City-hosted workshops that build capacity:
 - Asset Based Community Development
 - Enhancing community safety
 - Emergency Preparedness
 - Effective communication and engagement with neighbours
- Deliver neighbourhood events
- Offer programs and workshops for neighbours
- Coordinate community safety and emergency preparedness initiatives
- Support neighbourhood enhancement projects
- Participate in City events such as park openings and Park & Play
- Recruit and provide volunteers for community events

To support the NA with these initiatives as well as their other base business, the City would provide a small amount of grant funding to those participating in the pilot program. These funds could be used for renting space for meetings, marketing initiatives, materials, and supplies for events, permits and insurance.

The pilot program recognizes the potential of NA's to become an integral part of the Strong Neighbourhood program. By formalizing the relationship with NA's and increasing their capacity, they become a vital part of community development and a key element in taking Strong Neighbourhoods to the next level. This program also addresses the requests from the NAs' letters to Council by providing a small amount of funding, and more clarity on mutual roles and expectations.

Should Council endorse this approach, staff will prepare a budget submission for consideration in the 2024 provisional budget.

Policy #305

Council Policy #305 provides direction on how the municipality should work with NA's. It outlines the scope of projects where NA's will be engaged by the City, as well as financial support and other administrative support provided by the City. However, it was developed 21 years ago and has not been amended since 2010. There has been substantial growth and change in the City over that period that is not reflected in the policy such as, technology and media used to engage and communicate with residents. It also does not reflect the evolution of City departments and how they engage with NA's so there are gaps to be considered when going forward. The proposed Pilot Program sets a broader

framework for interactions between the City and Neighbourhood Associations than the Policy does. Staff recommend Council Policy 305 be rescinded, and a new policy be considered once the Pilot Program is complete.

Conclusion:

Neighbourhood Associations are uniquely positioned to advance the goals of Strong Neighbourhoods through increasing connections among neighbours, improving communication, volunteerism, and engagement. At the same time, they are asking for clarification as to the City's expectations of them and willingness to support them. With Council's endorsement, staff will create a pilot program to engage with Neighbourhood Associations and develop an Affiliation Agreement which outlines how NA's can access additional funds to promote neighbourhood connectedness, safety, and overall well-being. This project will be brought forward to the 2024 budget deliberations for consideration by Council.

Internal Circulation:

Community Communications and Community Engagement
Planning and Development Services
Community Safety
Office of the City Clerk

Considerations applicable to this report:

Existing Policy: [Council Policy 305](#) was approved in May 2002 to improve communications between the City and Neighbourhood Associations and was last updated in 2010. It is out of date, and the proposed Pilot Program sets a broader framework for interactions between the City and Neighbourhood Associations than the Policy does. Staff recommend Council Policy 305 be rescinded, and a new policy be considered once the Pilot Program is complete.

[2022 City of Kelowna Community Trends Report](#)

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

External Agency/Public Comments:

Communications Comments:

Submitted by: Mariko Siggers

Approved for inclusion: J. Gabriel

Attachments:

2023-07-24 Presentation – Building Strong
Council Policy 305

cc:



City of Kelowna
1435 Water Street
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4
250 469-8500
kelowna.ca

Council Policy

Guidelines for Communications & Cooperation Between the City and Residents Associations

APPROVED May 13, 2002

RESOLUTION: R375/10/04/26
REPLACING: R1039/08/11/24; R315/03/04/07; R444/02/05/13
DATE OF LAST REVIEW: April 2010

A. BACKGROUND FOR POLICY

Residents Associations: are organized groups of residents who wish to become informed and involved with planning and community development within defined geographic areas of the city.

The City recognizes Residents Associations as organized groups that are well-suited to a wide range of activities intended to improve their neighbourhoods including, but not limited to:

- a) Conduct community development work in their neighbourhoods, such as recreation-oriented initiatives, in cooperation with City parks & recreation staff, or RCMP community programs;
- b) Identify projects to benefit the neighbourhood and work with the City to realize such projects;
- c) Take advantage of existing City-level processes and structures to become more involved and better informed of proposed change in their neighbourhoods and City-initiated projects;
- d) Work with the City on long-term projects or initiatives to improve communication and participation in such projects at the community level;
- e) Conduct independent fundraising to realize neighbourhood objectives;
- f) Continue involvement with the City in the planning process as it addresses policy, zoning and other issues affecting the community;
- g) Provide public input and involvement in all matters pertaining to planning for the future of the city.

B. STRATEGIC PLAN DIRECTION

Goal 3 To foster the social and physical well-being of residents and visitors.
Objective 8 Provide meaningful opportunities for a broader range of input from residents and agencies on major direction taken by the City.

C. OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN (OCP) DIRECTION

The City of Kelowna will...develop a clear policy to effectively facilitate and support communication and cooperation with the residents associations and other grass roots organizations. (Section 17.3.12)

I. PUBLICATION OF CONTACT INFORMATION

Publication of contact information for Residents Associations, by the City on City Web Page, under Residents – Community Information – Groups and Associations, and within its quarterly Recreation Guide, depends on the following information being submitted, in writing, to the Community Planning Manager.

- a) The defined boundaries of the area to be served by the Association, as defined by the Association;
- b) The level of representation to the neighbourhood provided by the Association (this information will not be published);
- c) Whether or not the Association is a Non-profit Society registered under the Society Act for B.C.;
- d) Contact information including, at minimum, a name and mailing address. Phone number, fax number and/or email may also be provided (if applicable).
- e) In order for the City to retain contact information for an Association on the published list, referred to above, the Association must submit a copy of the minutes of its most recent annual general meeting by May 31st of each calendar year. Any Association that does not provide this information will be removed from the contact list.

II. START-UP ASSISTANCE

Start-up assistance to a maximum of \$500 is available to a residents group wishing to form a Residents Association. In order to qualify for start-up funds, the following requirements must be met:

- a) Start-up assistance has not been previously provided by the City;
- b) Boundaries of the area to be served by the Association have been approved by the City*;
- c) Contact information is provided in writing, by the Association;
- d) Executive members of the Association are identified (e.g. president, treasurer, secretary);
- e) The number of members of the Association are identified;
- f) Receipts for start-up expenses are provided to the City by the Association;
- g) The Association shall register as a non-profit society.

III. STAFF SUPPORT

The City, through its Community Planning Manager, will provide assistance to residents wishing to establish and maintain Residents Associations and will provide assistance to Associations wishing to become familiar with the City's decision making processes (based on Goal 3 – Objective 8 of the City of Kelowna Strategic Plan).

- The City recommends that boundaries established for Residents Associations be consistent with the Boundaries of Sector Plans or alternatively, that these boundaries coincide with census tract boundaries.

IV. REQUESTS FOR CITY STAFF REPRESENTATION AT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

A request by a Residents Association for City staff representation at a meeting should be made in writing to City staff with the following requirements:

- a) Two weeks advance notice of the meeting is preferred;
- b) A topic or issue should be clearly identified;
- c) An agenda be provided with a time slot set aside for the City staff representative to either present an issue and/or answer questions from the Associations.

The staff person in receipt of the written request must copy the request to the City Manager and the City Manager will coordinate appropriate representation and a written response through the Community Planning Manager.

When the Residents Association is unsure of the appropriate staff person(s) regarding a specific issue, the Community Planning Manager will provide assistance to ensure proper representation by the City.

V. FORMS OF NOTICE PROVIDED BY THE CITY

Development Applications: {including referrals to the Advisory Planning Commission (APC)}

- a) As soon as a development application file is assigned to a file number, it is added to the City's data base. The status of the application can then be tracked via the City's web page (see City Hall – Facts & Stats – Development Application Files).
- b) Residents' Associations are encouraged to take advantage of the various forms of notice that are currently provided by the City in relation to Development Applications, as follows:

Advisory Planning Commission (APC):

- a) Notices in local newspapers at least 10 days prior to the meeting, under the City banner;
- b) Development Notice sign posted on the property under application (posted by the applicant);
- c) Meeting agenda posted in the window outside the entrance to the Council Chamber;
- d) Copies of applications posted on the bulletin board behind the Information Desk in the main entrance to City Hall (the week prior to the meeting);
- e) Agenda package and minutes posted on the City's web page (see City Hall – Council – Meetings; or under City Hall – Calendar).

Notice Required for Public Hearings (City Council)

- a) Newspaper advertisements the week prior to the public hearing;
- b) Notices mailed or otherwise delivered to residents and property owners within 100 meters of the property (does not apply if 10 or more parcels owned by 10 or more persons are the subject of the bylaw alteration);
- c) Development Notice sign posted on the property under application 10 days prior to the Public Hearing (posted by the applicant).

VI. FORMS OF NOTICE PROVIDED BY THE CITY – Cont'd**Meetings of Council:**

- a) Agenda package and minutes posted on the City's web page (see City Hall – Council – Meetings; or under City Hall – Calendar);
- b) Notes on the outcome of Council meetings are published under “Council Highlights” in local newspapers and on the City's web page under News Releases.

Council Appointed Committees:

- a) Meeting agenda posted in the window of the Council Chamber lobby;
- b) Agendas and minutes posted on the City's web page (see City Hall – Council – Committees – Statutory Committees; or under City Hall – Calendar)

Open Houses, Workshops, Public Meetings or Other Events That May Result in Change Within a Neighbourhood

- a) Written notice to applicable Residents Associations with contact information;
- b) One the City's web page under City Hall – Calendar;
- c) Advertisements in the newspapers (targeted for 1 week prior to the event);
- d) Where feasible or appropriate, in the City's Recreation Guide that is published quarterly.

Information Bulletins and Publications re Initiatives and Opportunities at the City Level

The City will continue to develop and improve information bulletins and publications to update the community regarding initiatives and opportunities at the City Level. These publications will be made available in the following manner:

- a) On the City's web page;
- b) Copies of publications that are of interest to the broad community but are not yet available on the City's web page are available on request at the appropriate City department, at the applicable fee;
- c) Major publications are also placed in the Ellis Street Regional Library in Kelowna and at the KLO and North Campuses of Okanagan University College in Kelowna;
- d) Notices in the local newspapers under Council Highlights.

REASON FOR POLICY

Residents Associations are organized groups of residents who wish to become informed and involved with planning and community development within defined geographic areas of the city. These policies are intended to clarify procedures to effectively facilitate and support communication and co-operation with the Residents Associations and other grass roots organizations.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Local Government Act – Sections 879, 890, 893, 895, 898 (and others); City of Kelowna Official Community Plan – Section 17.3.12; City of Kelowna Strategic Plan – Goal 3 – Objective 8; Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act – Section 33.

PROCEDURE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Policy to be used by all City Departments for direction when communicating or working with Residents Associations. The policy should also be part of the procedures for carrying out any significant project work at the City level.



Building Strong Neighbourhoods

An update on Kelowna's Neighbourhood Associations

July 24, 2023



Background Strong Neighbourhoods

- ▶ Since 2015, the Strong Neighbourhoods program has offered a variety of programs to support residents with building community where they live.
- ▶ Each of the programs offered focuses on inspiring leaders, empowering neighbours and fostering neighbourliness.
- ▶ Neighbour connections contribute towards a culture of care, increase sense of belonging and inclusion, enhance safety, and ultimately lead to a more inclusive and livable city.

Strong Neighbourhoods Programs

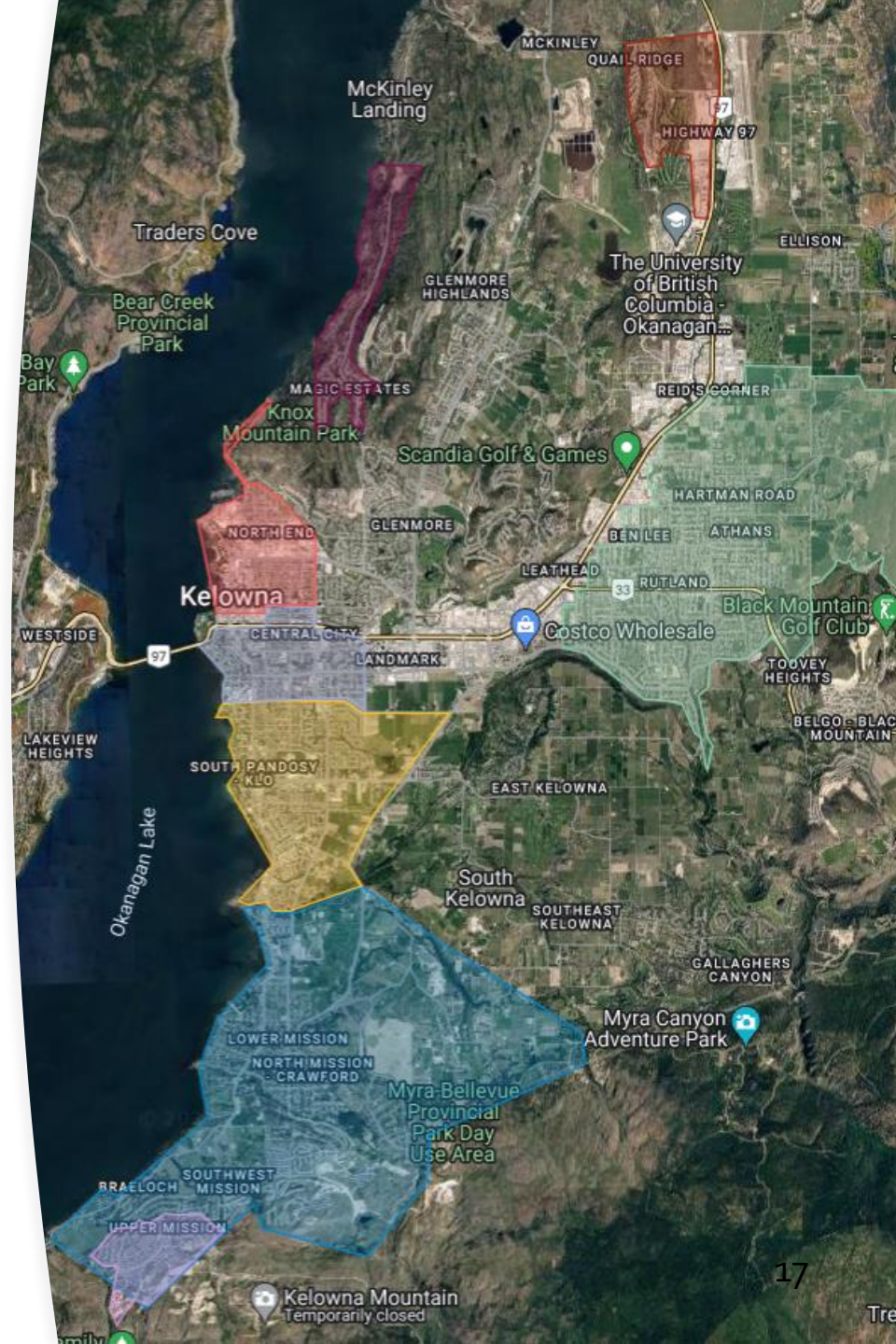
- ▶ Strong Neighbourhood Grants
- ▶ Neighbourhood Events
- ▶ Block Connectors
- ▶ Good Neighbour Toolkit
- ▶ Kind Neighbour Kudos
- ▶ Neighbour Day
- ▶ Park & Play



Background

Neighbourhood Associations in Kelowna

- ▶ Neighbourhood associations are non-profit organizations that advocate for the shared interests and goals of residents within the neighbourhood
- ▶ Policy 305 was created over 20 years ago to set guidelines for communication and cooperation between the City and Neighbourhood Associations



Background

Neighbourhood Associations in Kelowna



Active Neighbourhood Associations	Membership	Population within boundary
Clifton Highlands Community Association	~40 paying members Mailing List: ~160 subscribers	Population: 1,831 Households: 652
Kelowna Downtown Knox Mtn. Neighbourhood Association	"low membership"	Population: 7,328 Households: 3,823
Kelowna Lands and Orchards (KLO) Neighbourhood Association	~50 paying members Mailing List: ~400 subscribers:	Population: 15,692 Households: 7,735
Kelowna South-Central Association of Neighbourhoods (KSAN)	~65 paying members	Population: 13,372 Households: 6,987
Kettle Valley Neighbourhood Association*	*Not a registered society No paying membership Mailing List: ~600 subscribers	Population: 3,466 Households: 1,071
Okanagan Mission Resident's Association	~40 paying members Mailing List: ~200 subscribers	Population: 21,568 Households: 7,332
Quail Ridge Residents Association	~461 paying members	Population: 1,160 Households: 495
Rutland Residents Association	~30-40 paying members	Population: 32,480 Households: 12,547

Engagement

Learning more about each organization

- ▶ Strong Neighbourhoods met with the board of directors for 12 organizations/groups
- ▶ Focus was to gain a better understanding of the organization's history, structure, mandate, capacity and current engagement with residents



Engagement Questions

Forming a Neighbourhood Association	Building Capacity	Maintaining Momentum	Executing Events and Initiatives
<p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Creating a non-profit organization -Determining NA boundaries -Identifying goals, visions, strategic plan -Board recruitment 	<p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Obtaining funding -Recruiting board members -Gaining members -Networks/connections with other NA organizations 	<p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Membership involvement and further recruitment -Volunteer involvement -Revisiting and updating strategic plan 	<p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Outdoor Event -Neighbourhood Event

What we heard

Engagement results

- **Some key themes emerged from the sessions:**
 - Role ambiguity
 - Difficulty recruiting members
 - Limited capacity
 - lack of funding to support start-up and ongoing operational costs
 - lack of community space to hold meetings
 - costs associated with organizing events and running organization
- **“Neighbourhoods United” meeting – Jan 2023**
 - 8 associations/groups convened to discuss common goals/challenges
 - Request made to Mayor & Council
 - Review and revise Policy 305, specifically section CII
 - Operational funding
 - Meeting space
 - Communication support





Pilot Program Proposal

- ▶ Affiliation Agreement outlining the commitment of the Neighbourhood Association to build strong neighbourhoods
- ▶ Grant funding to support Neighbourhood Association operations
- ▶ On-going collaboration and capacity building
- ▶ Evaluation and performance measures

Recommendation to rescind Policy #305

Guidelines for Communications & Cooperation Between the City and Residents Associations

Policy is dated and redundant

- As the city continues to grow, the policy is no longer accurate or relevant
- The role of associations has evolved to encompass a broader focus on community development
- Rescinding the policy does not limit the City's ability to support or engage with NA's
- City's communication tools and engagement processes are more robust and effective. Many of these did not exist when the policy was created
 - The City has a variety of effective tools and resources reach residents directly
 - The policy does not reflect current technology and media used to engage and communicate with residents
- There has been substantial growth and change in the City over that time period which Policy 305 does not reflect
- The Pilot Program will set a broader framework for interactions between the City and Neighbourhood Associations

Next steps

- ▶ Develop pilot program details
- ▶ Submit 2024 provisional budget request
- ▶ Implement and evaluate pilot from 2024-2027





Questions?