



City of Kelowna

dnoble-brandt@kelowna.ca

mayorandcouncil@kelowna.ca

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Letter of Support – Growth Scenario 3

The K.L.O. Neighbourhood Association is a community organization whose mission is to provide transparent and informed leadership to our member and assist them in dealing with issues within our boundaries. Within the mandate we are engaged and advocate for infrastructure, amenities and development that enhances the quality of our community.

Our part of Kelowna will inevitably continue to experience significant growth, but it has to be done responsibly to maintain the quality of life in our neighbourhood and reduce future tax burdens. We are, therefore concerned with having a voice in both local planning decisions and city wide planning decisions such as the OCP Growth Scenario.

We are generally supportive the principles of Imagine Kelowna and recognize that to “flourish in the future, we need to be agile, resilient and unafraid to do things differently.” **Scenario 3 best characterizes that path.** It is both the most balanced path the scores highly on city priorities and also happens to be the choice of the majority of people during the pick your path process, 41.2%.

Given council’s narrow vote of support for Growth Scenario 3 and a UDI lobbying effort outside of the public engagement process to flip council’s vote, we are therefore greatly concerned of council moving backwards to a Growth Scenario 2.5. We support the analysis completed by Robert Stupka, P.Eng., for the Sustainable Leadership Council, attached and are dismayed that such a rebuttal to UDI’s submission is even required given that both staff reports and the public engagement has equipped council with all the information needed to solidly support Growth Scenario 3.

We note that when compared with the July 30, 2018 iteration, Scenario 2.5 is really a refined iteration of Scenario 2.0 that the public clearly rejected (not supported by 77%) and is in the opposite direction with Imagine Kelowna and related plans endorsed by council.

Scenario 2.5 would put 7,000 more future residents into suburban areas than Scenario 3!

This additional growth will be taxpayer subsidized as clearly articulated on Page 9 in the 2018 Community Trends Report.¹ It's hard for us to understand how you could justify subsidizing more sprawl and yet not have sufficient funds to develop Cedar Ave park to a basic level despite there being a current and future tax base will actually pay for it.

We know that Scenario 2.5 will also result in more traffic congestion passing through our neighbourhood rather than to our neighbourhood, tax increases, constrain deploying transportation options in urban centers like ours, and negatively impact livability and sustainability of our community.

In light of this, it is difficult to comprehend how with a \$500 million infrastructure deficit and addition to tax increases and infrastructure levies council can justify supporting a scenario that makes the situation worse, and goes against the will of the people. We will have to see on March 4.

We ask you to respect Imagine Kelowna and the 4,000 people, who participated, the pick your path process and your own support on July 30, 2018 and again on December 10, 2018 for Growth Scenario 3.

Should you have any questions, please contact me Paul Clark, Co-chairman at (250) 864-9247, or Joe Uhearn, Co-chairman at 250-575-8022.

Dr. Paul Clark and Joe Uhearn
Co-Chairmen KLONA

Attachments:

1. Why Growth Scenario 3 is the Best Choice
2. Why Growth Scenario 3 is the Best Choice – Presentation

¹ https://www.kelowna.ca/sites/files/1/docs/2018_community_trends_report_-_responding_to_the_infrastructure_challenge.pdf

