



The Regional Growth Management Plan and the Regional Context Statement

Under the legislation defined in the *Municipal Act*, all official community plans in jurisdictions that have adopted growth strategies must comply with the goals and policies of that growth strategy. The Regional District of Nanaimo adopted a Regional Growth Management Plan (RGMP) in January of 1997. The Electoral Area 'F' OCP, therefore, must respond to and support the goals of the Regional District of Nanaimo's RGMP.

In response to the RGMP's goal of containing sprawl and focusing development, the Electoral Area 'F' OCP designates Rural Separation Boundaries. These boundaries designate the areas where higher density residential development and/or commercial and industrial uses will be focused.

In response to the RGMP's goal of creating complete, nodal communities, the Electoral Area 'F' OCP directs higher density residential development as well as future commercial and industrial development into the Village Centres at Errington, Coombs, Hilliers and Qualicum River Estates. The OCP encourages local community involvement in future planning for these centres.

In response to the RGMP's goal of protecting rural integrity, the Electoral Area 'F' OCP designates land considered to be rural into two designations: Rural Residential and Resource Lands. Objectives and policies for each of these land use designations are established to protect the rural nature of the Plan Area and encourage home based business activities.

"In response to the RGMP's goal of protecting the natural environment, the Electoral Area 'F' OCP designates a development permit area over specific identified and unmapped watercourses in the Plan Area and establishes objectives to encourage the protection of the natural environment¹.

In response to the RGMP's goal of improving mobility, the Electoral Area 'F' OCP supports community involvement in planning for road development. The Plan also encourages the use of other modes of transportation and contains objectives and policies to support trail development and safe passage for pedestrians, bicycles and horses.

In response to the RGMP's goal of creating a vibrant and sustainable economy, the Electoral Area 'F' OCP supports existing businesses in the Plan Area and encourages future economic development in the Plan Area. It also contains objectives and policies to ensure that the type and scale of existing and future businesses are compatible with the character of surrounding lands.

In response to the RGMP's goal of improving service and resource use efficiency, the Electoral Area 'F' OCP sets out objectives and policies for parks, schools, community facilities, community water services, community sewer services and community storm water maintenance.

In response to the RGMP's goal of encouraging cooperation among jurisdictions, the Electoral Area 'F' OCP recognizes that other jurisdictions have mandates within the Plan Area. The Plan encourages better communications between jurisdictions about planning issues and supports seeking new and innovative ways to involve all stakeholders in planning decisions.

¹ Bylaw No. 1152.05 adopted December 4, 2018