

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights from the City of  
Nelson Council Meeting

February 2020



## Railtown Bylaws Adopted

Council adopted a suite of bylaws to assist in achieving the land use recommendations in the Railtown Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP). This includes supporting new jobs, better physical and visual connections to the downtown, enhanced civic spaces, as well as to encourage brownfield and ecological restoration and mixed-use and innovative live-work residential/commercial opportunities. The changes allow more uses in Railtown such as an art gallery and museum, care services, early childhood development, entertainment facilities, health services, multi-unit residential, mobile food and retail vendors, professional and business offices as well as two new use categories: indoor urban agriculture' and 'cannabis micro-processing.'

The second phase of cannabis legalization in 2019 allowing new classes of products including edibles, topicals and tinctures, presenting new opportunities for job creation in the revitalized Railtown and the Lakeside Drive industrial area.

## Railtown Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan Implementation

This action-focused plan recommended annual progress updates to Council. Turning the vision into action requires strategic public investments together with policies and guidelines to encourage and shape private development. Some highlights from 2019 include bringing policy and regulatory changes to allow a greater diversity of uses, successful grant funding for heritage façade improvements on the Coke & Gas Works building and public space enhancements in the Railtown Plaza and working with landowners on servicing for vacant brownfield parcels. Plans for this year include continuing environmental site assessment of City-owned parcels, pedestrian improvements from Baker Street to Cottonwood Falls Park, and completing washroom and stage installations in Cottonwood Falls Park.

## Proposed Bike Route Project

Staff presented an overview of the Consultant's report on the proposed first phase of the "Primary Bike Route". The *High Street and Third Street Cycling Infrastructure Conceptual Design* report is an overview of existing conditions, summary of design criteria, concept plans and the preferred option for each corridor. The conceptual design options are available at [nelson.ca/activetransportation](http://nelson.ca/activetransportation). The next step in this project is an open house to share the concept plans with the community and gather feedback. **The open house will take place at the Hume School gymnasium on March 5<sup>th</sup> between 6:00PM and 8:30PM.**

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## Council Extras...



While travelling in New Zealand, Mayor Dooley had the opportunity to visit the Mayor of Nelson, New Zealand, Rachel Reese.



Our intrepid Councillors, Keith Page, Janice Morrison, Jesse Woodward and Brittny Anderson joined over 300 walkers in this year's Coldest Night of Year in Nelson. The event successfully raised \$51,809 towards the preservation of safe & affordable housing in our community.

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