

Anmore Advisor

Summer 2025



Council Update

- MAYOR JOHN McEWEN

Focusing on Community and Safety

Heading into the second half of 2025, Council and staff are focused on priorities that support enhanced community gathering opportunities and investment in emergency preparedness and mitigation measures.

As many of our residents have likely heard, one of the most significant updates for our community is that the Anmore South property owner, icona Properties Ltd., withdrew its application to amend the Official Community Plan (OCP). This occurred just prior to the start of the scheduled Public Hearing related to the amendment, which caught Council and the Village by surprise, and meant that the Public Hearing did not proceed and Council did not vote on the amendment. At the July 22, 2025 Council meeting, Council rescinded the first and second reading of OCP Bylaw Amendment No. 686-2023, and we are no longer considering this application.

On behalf of Council, I'd like to thank the many people who participated in the community engagement process. We appreciate the time you spent sharing your input. Our thanks also go to the Village team, including staff and contractors, who did an amazing job leading the application review process. This comprehensive process adhered to the policies in our OCP, and we added terms that went well beyond regulatory requirements as we wanted to explore how the proposed land use would affect Anmore.

We learned a lot from the technical studies and community engagement, regardless of how the process ended, but now it's time to focus on other priorities for our community.

Expanding and Enhancing Dr. Hal Weinberg Spirit Park

One of the exciting new projects involves planning for enhancements to Dr. Hal Weinberg Spirit Park. I encourage you to read the update about the project in this edition, and to participate in the next round of community engagement to share your priorities for this amazing gathering space.

Planning is also underway for the upcoming Ma Murray Day celebration on September 14 starting at noon. We will be hosting the Market Fair again this year, which provides a great opportunity for local organizations, artists and craftspeople to showcase their products and services and connect with residents and visitors.

If you're interested in registering as a vendor at the Market Fair, please be sure to register by August 29, and for everyone else, we look forward to celebrating with you on September 14.



Supporting Emergency Planning and Resiliency

In addition to these initiatives to support a welcoming and inclusive community and increase community involvement, we are also focused on some key operational measures to promote safety through emergency preparedness and mitigation.

One significant project currently underway relates to improving our resiliency by completing community-based wildfire planning. For Anmore, this involves an update to our Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan to help reduce the risk of wildfire and related impacts in our community.

The Village applied for and received \$32,000 in grant funding to complete this update. Professional natural resource consultants with expertise in wildfire mitigation and ecosystem function are completing the update to the plan.

Specifically, the first steps will involve comprehensive evaluations of wildfire risk assessments in Village-owned parks and green spaces based on the wildfire threat analysis protocol and ecosystem evaluation. This includes evaluating factors like wildfire threats (types of trees, plants, ground cover), topography, and human influence to determine the risk level, often categorized into threat classes. These assessments will inform mitigation strategies that will be designed to reduce the risk of wildfire and its impacts throughout our community.

This initial field work is nearing completion, and it is anticipated that the updated Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan and related recommendations, including FireSmart for homeowners, will be presented to Council this fall. This information is essential for understanding our wildfire risks and what we can do as a community to minimize them.

This is just one of several measures we have in place to improve our overall emergency preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery capacity. We implemented Alertable – an emergency notification system – as a key method to keep our community informed about emergency advisories and alerts, and we encourage residents to sign up at anmore.com. We also have an Emergency Plan and, an Evacuation Plan to guide our response and an Emergency Guide Handbook for residents.

We are also hearing from our Bylaw Officer that the Buntzen Lake parking registration system is continuing to help with keeping our roads clear for emergency response, and there are little to no street parking issues, even on weekends.

All of these measures help to support a safe community and our ability to respond effectively in an emergency, but it's also important for residents to be prepared at home. Please see the tips and other links under Emergency Preparedness on anmore.com.

Considering Rezoning Application for Pinnacle Ridge

The Pinnacle Ridge rezoning application before Council consists of four land parcels owned by three different parties and totals approximately 75 acres. The rezoning application is seeking approval to rezone the site from Residential 1 (RS-1) with one acre lots to a Comprehensive Development (CD) zone that would accommodate 269 principal dwelling units including single-family homes, duplexes and townhouses, as well as 53 secondary suites for a total of 322 units.

Under the new provincial legislation (Bill 44), the Village is prohibited from having a Public Hearing for this type of rezoning application, which also limits community engagement. However, Council has referred the application to Village committees and the Advisory Planning Commission, and these meetings are open to the public. As well, Council has provided direction for staff to consult with the Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department and the City of Port Moody regarding emergency access and water supply.

With these initiatives, it's clear we will be busy to the end of the year and into 2026. We look forward to connecting with our residents in the coming months, and we hope you all enjoy the summer in our beautiful community.

Understanding Septic Management

There continues to be confusion related to septic system management and who is responsible for audits, investigations and compliance requirements. This results in questions being submitted to the Village and raised at Council meetings that cannot be answered. It's important to understand that the Village has no authority or jurisdiction in this regulatory area.

Septic systems are under the jurisdiction of the BC provincial government (specifically the Ministry of Environment and Parks) and the Fraser Health Authority.

This means that when there are problems with a septic system, the Village does not have any say in what needs to be done to address issues.

All inspections and compliance measures such as pollution abatement orders are between the property owner or the company managing the septic system (if applicable) and the provincial government and/or health authority.

When the Village is made aware of a risk to community safety or the environment, staff will contact the leading authority for information. However, this is strictly to stay informed about what is going on in the community. Council and Village staff do not have any authority to direct what is being done.

This also means that the Village is not the best source for specific information or updates related to septic system issues in the community.

For information about septic systems in Anmore and related requirements, compliance notices and any other regulatory measures, residents are encouraged to contact the provincial government at ServiceBC@gov.bc.ca or call the Ministry of Environment and Parks regional office at 604-582-5200.



Community Input Shaping the Future of Dr. Hal Weinberg Spirit Park



Dr. Hal Weinberg Spirit Park is the heart of our community—a central space for events, recreation and connection.

We're now exploring ways to expand the park onto the Village-owned lot on Ravenswood Drive and enhance its amenities, with the goal of creating a seamless civic space alongside the Anmore Community Hub.

Earlier this spring, the Village launched Phase 1 of community engagement to help guide future planning for Dr. Hal Weinberg Spirit Park. Residents shared ideas in person at the Easter Egg Hunt and through an online feedback form. Their input, along with future feedback, will help shape the park design, along with factors such as budget and infrastructure considerations.

To support this process, staff and engineers prepared a preliminary concept map based on technical site assessments. Some elements—such as the road alignment, parking area, plaza and gazebo—are already confirmed. All other features shown in the concept map are intended as ideas only, and we are working with residents to identify the priorities we should focus on as we move forward.

What We Learned

As part of Phase 1 engagement, residents shared input on five key areas of the park: the Open Lawn, Natural Forest, Active Park, Playground and a Meadow Area.

Here's a snapshot of the top ideas:

- **Open Lawn:** Strong support for an outdoor amphitheatre, a covered picnic area, and amenities like a ping pong table to encourage recreation.
- **Natural Forest:** Preference to keep it as natural as possible, with added walking paths and benches.
- **Active Park:** A bike pump track was popular; some suggested restoring the space to forest.
- **Playground:** Support for nature-themed play space, accessible equipment, and creative themes.
- **Meadow Area:** Interest in preserving meadow, or adding features like a garden or a junior pump track.

Residents also contributed new ideas within these areas. While a community pool was mentioned often, it's not feasible due to infrastructure constraints. Other well-supported ideas included mini golf, a community garden, and a toddler play area.

The full engagement summary, including a visual concept map and more detail on the top responses, is available on our website at anmore.com/park-engagement

Concept Map for Dr. Hal Weinberg Spirit Park



What's Next?

Phase 2 of community engagement will begin in September and will include additional opportunities to weigh in on the preferred uses and amenities at the park. This input will be used to refined design options based on community feedback, technical analysis and budget considerations.

We would like to thank residents who participated in Phase 1 and encourage our community members to get involved in the next round of engagement.

Together, we are shaping a civic space where the community can work, gather, and celebrate for years to come.

For the latest updates, please visit
anmore.com/park-engagement

Community Updates



Be Bear Aware This Summer

With warmer months come more wildlife sightings. Help keep our community and local animals safe by reducing attractants:

- Place bins at the curb after 5:30 a.m. on collection day and secure them by 10:00 p.m.
- Store carts in a shed or garage whenever possible. If not, freeze food scraps until collection day.
- Keep lids locked and carts clean to avoid odours.
- No pet food outside.
- For damaged carts, email: village.hall@anmore.com

We're lucky to live in a community surrounded by nature—but that comes with shared responsibility. Securing waste and reducing attractants helps protect wildlife and keeps our neighbourhoods safe. Let's work together to maintain the balance between our homes and the wild spaces around us.

Introducing Our New Dump Truck: The Blizzard of Oz

Our community helped the Village name our new truck, which will be used to improve winter response—such as snow clearing and salt spreading—and support emergency road repairs and debris removal. This will also reduce operating costs as Village crews take on more work rather than using contractors.

Keep an eye out for the Blizzard of Oz in the community!



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2697 Sunnyside Rd | www.anmore.com

village.hall@anmore.com

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